

19990910.qrp v01_n575.qrl.990910

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 19:03:07 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1575

QRP-L Digest 1575

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- 3) [49887] Radio Control Planes and QRP
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
- 4) [49888] Loop antenna tuning question
by n5ib@juno.com
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by "Roy" <ab7ce@email.msn.com>
- 6) [49890] New Radio Shack Ham rig
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- 8) [49892] Re: prosigns
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by "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 12) [49896] morse
by Anthony Felino <anthony@pacinfosb.com>
- 13) [49897] NA Contest Logging Software
by mailbox-gaskins <pgaskin@imcnet.net>
- 14) [49898] Re: prosigns
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
- 15) [49899] Re: QRP vote -NO I WOULDN'T
by S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
- 16) [49900] Re:
by Terry Bendell <terryb@bmts.com>
- 17) [49901] Component ID Help
by Ed Kessler <edkess@epix.net>
- 18) [49902] Re: An answer, a thankyou, an apology and a backlash...
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
- 19) [49903] Re: [Elecraft] RS 3 amp linear power supply question

- by "Eric Swartz WA6HHQ, EleCraft" <erics@elecraft.com>
- 20) [49904] DX or not DX
by The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
- 21) [49905] beating prosigns to death
by Jeff Davis <jeff@n9avg.org>
- 22) [49906] Results of the SEPTEMBER SPARTAN SPRINT
by "Russ Carpenter" <russ@natworld.com>
- 23) [49907] 2N2 certificates # 10 and 11 awarded
by PDouglas12@aol.com
- 24) [49908] Austin QRP Club Meeting this Saturday
by Glen Reid <k5fx@flash.net>
- 25) [49909] OT - non-QRP dummy load
by n5ib@juno.com
- 26) [49910] Re: AA/AAA Battery Capacities
by aa5yx@juno.com
- 27) [49911] TEN-TEC T KITS....
by jmarran@juno.com
- 28) [49912] re:wrotten cw
by neil tanner <ntan@crosslink.net>
- 29) [49913] Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP
by Tim Ahrens <tahrens@hilconet.com>
- 30) [49914] Re: Still trying to decide on the best QRP rig
by PDouglas12@aol.com
- 31) [49915] Re: Still trying to decide on the best QRP rig
by Oscar A Hoyt <k5ubs@juno.com>
- 32) [49916] Re: [Elecraft] RS 3 amp linear power supply question
by The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
- 33) [49917] DSW 40 Problem
by Michael Bower <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
- 34) [49918] Re: Still trying to decide on the best QRP rig
by Stanley Wilson <microres@crl.com>
- 35) [49919] NA Contest Software
by mailbox-gaskins <pgaskin@imcnet.net>
- 36) [49920] Re: Rotten CW
by wa8rxi@juno.com
- 37) [49921] Re: Rotten CW
by wa8rxi@juno.com
- 38) [49922] RE: Rotten CW
by Mike <mmorrow@companet.net>
- 39) [49923] RE: Rotten CW
by Mike <mmorrow@companet.net>
- 40) [49924] Just once more on rotten CW
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
- 41) [49925] CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
by wb2vuo@juno.com
- 42) [49926] Re: 12m meters, finally . . .
by Gary L Surrency <gsurrency@juno.com>
- 43) [49927] Unsubscribe

by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@mindspring.com>
44) [49928] RE: DX or not DX
by "Andreas Junge" <Andreas@atltech.com>
45) [49929] Re: OT - non-QRP dummy load
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
46) [49930] Re: Source of good inline fuse holders?
by guillotstutoring@juno.com
47) [49931] PacifiCon Test Equipment Tutorial
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
48) [49932] Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP
by Jeff Francis <jfrancis@frii.com>
49) [49933] Re: Battery Float Charger
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@primenet.com>
50) [49934] RE: 2N2/40 Mods, Mixer post amp and variable RF gain
by "Juan Jose Pastor Estornell" <juanjope@ctv.es>
51) [49935] COMPONENT ID HELP
by chuck.olson@sbaonline.gov
52) [49936] Re: [Re: An answer, a thankyou, an apology and a backlasH...]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
53) [49937] RE: Rotten CW
by "Mont Pierce, KM6WT" <km6wt@netzero.net>
54) [49938] Re: USA Visit
by iapizloj@bicc00.bi.ehu.es (Jon Iza)
55) [49939] Re: Antenna Q: Ground mounting
by Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>
56) [49940] T2 and PSK31
by Stan Wilson <microres@crl.com>
57) [49941] SV: Antenna Q: Ground mounting
by "Hans Sundstrom" <hans.sundstrom@telia.com>
58) [49942] Wattmeter mod to digital?
by iapizloj@bicc00.bi.ehu.es (Jon Iza)
59) [49943] Re: Component ID Help
by Robert McConnell <rmcconne@lightlink.com>
60) [49944] second fuse in mobile rigs...necessary?
by Peter_Simpson@ne.3com.com
61) [49945] Re: Rotten CW
by crc <crc@io.com>
62) [49946] Re: DX or not DX
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
63) [49947] Headphones
by "Mark Hogan" <mhogan@email.msn.com>
64) [49948] Re: second fuse in mobile rigs...necessary?
by wb2vuo@juno.com
65) [49949] Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
66) [49950] Re: Rotten CW
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
67) [49951] wrotten cw / wrotten rope

by hamjoel@juno.com
68) [49952] QRP Contesting This Weekend
by Ken Newman <N2CQ@citnet.com>
69) [49953] Re: DX or not DX
by The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
70) [49954] Re: [second fuse in mobile rigs...necessary?]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
71) [49955] RE: Component ID Help
by "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
72) [49956] Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
73) [49957] Re USA Visit
by Jack Bennett <J.Bennett@lboro.ac.uk>
74) [49958] COMPONENT ID HELP
by chuck.olson@sbaonline.gov
75) [49959] 2N2/40 Pilgrims Progress & Plea for Help
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
76) [49960] Re: prosigns
by "Barry L. Geipel - AD6HR" <bgeipel@primenet.com>
77) [49961] Radio Shack HTX-10
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
78) [49962] DK1WE ??
by Mike Perry <pa7xg@amsat.org>
79) [49963] Test- disregard
by "David Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
80) [49964] Re: DX or not DX
by GElam30092@aol.com
81) [49965] QRP Afield / Q&A
by "David Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
82) [49966] EXTERNAL KEYS WITH THE QRP PLUS
by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
83) [49967] digital vfos
by "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>
84) [49968] Re: digital vfos
by Chris Cartwright Sr <ccart@phideaux.com>
85) [49969] Re: digital vfos
by Stanley Wilson <microres@crl.com>
86) [49970] Re: DX or not DX
by Chris Cartwright Sr <ccart@phideaux.com>
87) [49971] RE: digital vfos / Somewhat related topic
by Dave Barrett <DBarrett@creo.com>
88) [49972] Re: digital vfos
by "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
89) [49973] Re: digital vfos
by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
90) [49974] Mena, AR Hamfest
by "ke5tc" <ke5tc@crosstel.net>
91) [49975] Weights of Radio Things

by Jerry Haigwood <w5jh@swlink.net>
92) [49976] rotten CW
by "Mark Paley" <mpaley@wcnet.org>
93) [49977] RE: digital vfos
by "Everhart, Joseph @ CSE" <jeverhar@mail.cse.1-3com.com>
94) [49978] Re: 12m meters, finally . . .
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
95) [49979] Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
96) [49980] Antenna Question
by Gary Slagel <gdslagel@yahoo.com>
97) [49981] Re: Cw whine & complain
by "Geoff Foster" <gfoster@provide.net>
98) [49982] WTB:Radio Shack speaker-mic
by Jim <w7ls@blarg.net>
99) [49983] Ten Tec cases
by "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
100) [49984] Re: rotten CW
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
101) [49985] Re: Chassis labels
by "George Heron" <n2apb@erols.com>
102) [49986] HTX-10 RadioShack 10 meter transceiver
by charles k brown <n4so@juno.com>
103) [49987] Re Crystal Grinding
by Joseph Mikuckis <k3chp@erols.com>
104) [49988] Re: Tayloe detector?
by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
105) [49989] Re: Chassis labels
by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
106) [49990] Ok, here's one & I'll shut up about this "freeband" thing
by Nils R Young <nilsbull@juno.com>
107) [49991] more on my fictional vfo
by "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>
108) [49992] re:Mena AR. hamfest
by "ke5tc" <ke5tc@crosstel.net>
109) [49993] Re: 2N2 certificates # 10 and 11 awarded
by K2UD@aol.com
110) [49994] Re: 2N2/40 Mods, Mixer post amp and variable RF gain
by K2UD@aol.com
111) [49995] ElmeRadio PCB's
by Bruce Kizerian <kizerian@ced.utah.edu>
112) [49996] Revvin' up!
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
113) [49997] Re: Chassis labels
by K2UD@aol.com
114) [49998] Re: 2N2 certificates # 10 and 11 awarded
by Bob Hightower <ki7mn@extremezone.com>
115) [49999] OT: Outlook to Eudora.

by "Juan Jose Pastor Estornell" <juanjope@ctv.es>
116) [50000] Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
117) [50001] Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
118) [50002] Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
by "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 19:03:57 EDT
From: KG8L@aol.com
To: ab7ce@email.msn.com, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49885] Re: prosigns
Message-ID: <2277e6c6.250996dd@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Not that I've ever heard...however a question mark MAY be used to signal
'repeat'....e.g. QTH Wichita Falls, TX ? Wichita Falls, TX.

72/73,

Mike
KG8L

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 15:46:42 -0400
From: Nils R Young <nilsbull@juno.com>
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49886] 12m meters, finally . . .
Message-ID: <19990909.155736.13894.4.nilsbull@juno.com>

Gang,

I just had a QSO (albeit QRO) with Luis in Spain on 12m. First QSO on 12.

Now, if I can figure how to add loading to a CB whip, maybe I'll be able
to do that mobile . . . once the K2 SSB options ship & I put it together
& not destroy the radio in the process.

Still not hearing as much activity on 12 or 10 as I hear on the
"freeband" spaces. Them guys is nuts, but they's on the air, you gotta
admit that. I've heard Haitian Kweyol/Creole, Jamaican patois (I&I mon
yas!) &c. Just imagine how much activity that would put on the ham bands

if it were legal & they (as freebanders) saw things a bit differently.

Which, I guess, is an answer to a suggestion that I got from a list member about "bringing them over" to this side of the forks.

Use the forks, Luce! Use the forks! Trust your salad!

73

Nils

Nils R. Bull Young :: La Estancia de los Guajolotes Sonrientes
WB8IJN &c :: The Tagalong Press :: email to nilsbull@juno.com
"In my day we had to FIGHT to have email! Every day was a struggle!"
-- Comrade Sergei Nikolaievich

McTovarishov

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Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 17:19:33 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49887] Radio Control Planes and QRP
Message-ID: <02ee01befb18\$1b837720\$6b66d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

I was wondering if anyone has ever tried installing a QRP-beacon rig into a radio-controlled sail plane? I think that it would be cool to fly a sail plane around with a beacon and get some reports from other hams across the state on 2 or some world-wide reports on 6, if the band was open, of course.

I think another neat idea would be to build a plane, install an ATV transmitter in the thing, and fly the thing via remote TV pick-up. If you added a decent sized fuel tank, you could even have a ham 100 miles away pick up control of the thing, fly it over his/her

area, land it, refuel, and send it back to the originator or on to another ham further down the line.
How about taking the video feed and piping it over the net so everyone could watch? That would rock!
Anyone out there ever try this? How about a remote-controlled balloon that hams built and fly the thing across the country? We'd sure get a TON of free amateur advertising from the networks if we did something like this! Hmmmm. I wonder if we could fly the balloon around the world, with a couple of countries taking part in the flying? That way, we could promote international ties and co-operation, and maybe we could get some of the third-world nations to give a hand with the flying and let their kids experience technology full in the face. BTW, the rigs would all be QRP, of course :^).

Hmmm. Would a project like this be too ambitious or expensive for us? Could we spread the cost around some way?

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 19:06:57 EDT
From: n5ib@juno.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [49888] Loop antenna tuning question
Message-ID: <19990909.175702.7871.0.N5IB@juno.com>

I'm playing with loop antennas, getting ready for foxhunt season. The first kludged up version was just "string as much wire as will fit around the backyard, feed it with window line, match it with a tuner and QRV." That, not surprisingly, worked pretty well. But a little voice keeps whispering that the antenna gods would be more pleased with my offering and accept my proffered rf deeper into their aether if the loop was tuned to resonance. So, here's the question:

What's a good (or even perhaps the best) way to tune up my MHSSFWAFDL antenna (that's Mostly Horizontal Sorta Sloping Full Wavelength Apex Fed Delta Loop) Given that I have the following to work with:

grid dip meter (OK, no grids, just transistors)

MFJ-259B

SWR bridge (50 ohm) in ant tuner (but the tuner part can't be bypassed easily)

field strength meter (passive - untuned)

plenty of coax and/or window line

The feed point is not readily physically accessible (too high) to "go there" with the dipmeter or the MFJ, else I'd just look for a dip, or for a purely resistive impedance. I'm not really too keen on the tedium needed to Smith Chart reflect the feed point down along x feet of feedline (whose characteristic Z and velocity factor are probably only roughly known anyway).

What about dipping at the far end (about a tenth of a wavelength, minimum) of the window line?

MFJ at the far end? With or without balun? If with, what ratio?

I'll summarize and post the gist of the replies if it appears warranted.

73

Jim N5IB

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Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 17:08:11 -0600

From: "Roy" <ab7ce@email.msn.com>

To: <KG8L@aol.com>, <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [49889] Re: prosigns

Message-ID: <006e01befb18\$311b1d40\$a4c7fad0@pavilion>

This was the usage I heard it as. Thanks, I was not aware of usage as "repeat". Roy AB7CE

-----Original Message-----

From: KG8L@aol.com <KG8L@aol.com>

To: ab7ce@email.msn.com <ab7ce@email.msn.com>; qrp-1@lehigh.edu <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>

Date: Thursday, September 09, 1999 5:03 PM

Subject: Re: prosigns

>Not that I've ever heard...however a question mark MAY be used to signal
>'repeat'...e.g. QTH Wichita Falls, TX ? Wichita Falls, TX.

>

>72/73,

>
>Mike
>KG8L

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 19:14:12 EDT
From: MJC191@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu (Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion)
Subject: [49890] New Radio Shack Ham rig
Message-ID: <d11cfa2a.25099944@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dear Gang,
Maybe I'm alone on this one, but I would be even more excited if the new RS
rig selling for \$149 offered SSB/FM coverage for 50 - 54 MHz instead of 28 to
29.7. Now there's a gap that needs filling!
72 to all
Mike NA1XX
North Weymouth MA
QRP-L # 1588
"When all else fails..CW"

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 19:21:54 -0400
From: Pete Burbank <plburbank@kih.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49891] Re: prosigns
Message-ID: <3.0.32.19990909192151.006f1dd8@kih.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 03:56 PM 9/9/99 -0600, you wrote:
>I have noticed some folks using a question mark for a comma. Is this a
>common thing or has there been some confusion somewhere? Roy AB7CE

Roy...I'm not sure where this got started or is recommended or when
I started doing it but ...--... means repeat or is a substitute for
the error eeeeeeee signal.
CW conventions can be confusing... I can correct my evil ways if
wrong.
Am I correct in that a prosign consists of characters separated

by no spacing? (as one sends BK)
I'm almost sorry I mentioned CW procedures to the list today
but if it causes some thinking or improvement it's worth a bit
of discussion. As one astute op noted, CW evolves like the
English language and as such, deserves periodic review..
I must confess to turning the rig on and doing house or
shop work and reading the mail on CW.
I guess that is an extension of riding subs up by the Arctic
Circle with the VLF CW piping out the news etc ...NSS I think.
OTOH...maybe RF brain damage.
Anyway...sure like CW music
73 Pete NV4V
Somewhere south of Nonesuch, Ky and NE of Gravel Switch.

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 16:52:10 MST
From: "Chuck Adams, K7QO" <k7qo@hotmail.com>
To: ab7ce@email.msn.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49892] Re: prosigns
Message-ID: <19990909235210.60871.qmail@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Roy et.al.,

The people that send a question mark for a comma may be those
that followed an error printed in one of the FISTS newsletters
that was not checked by the editor. Sometimes these things
slip through and get in print and then it's heck to pay for
many years until someone teaches all those that learned it
wrong.

I can see why the frustration level of some who get caught on
this and have to go back and unlearn and relearn the correct
way(s).

<bt> is the double dash (equal sign)
<ba> is the hyphen

FYI

Chuck Adams K7QO CP-60 k7qo@hotmail.com <http://www.qsl.net/k7qo>

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Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 19:56:31 -0400
From: The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Cc: elecraft@qth.net
Subject: [49893] RS 3 amp linear power supply question
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.19990909195631.007b92e0@pop.megalink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Just picked up one of the Radio Shack 3 amp linear power supplies on sale (\$33). It's real steady at 13.8 volts, dipping about .1 volt under transmit load from my K2.

What I want to do, tho, it pump up the voltage to around 14 volts, to be able to adequately charge the K2's internal battery. Without opening it up and potentially voiding the warranty for no reason, is this supply easily modded to increase the voltage? Mayhaps a simple tweak of a pot?

72,

Mike Boice, KW1ND
New Gloucester, Maine FN43uw
QRP-L # 576 ARCI ARS # 188 K2 # 185 NorCal

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 19:00:15 -0500
From: crc <crc@io.com>
To: QRPL <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49894] Re: prosigns
Message-ID: <37D84A0F.8F5B13CE@io.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I learned BT (sent as one character) to be a long dash in the 60's then when I studied for an upgrade last year the book used that character as an equal sign, and mentioned it as a space holder, as in duuuh I am thinking. Of course I don't remember the @ or several other characters we use today as even being in the handbook back then.

Charlie
WA5KRF

Date: 9 Sep 1999 19:01:46 -0500
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49895] Ten Tec kits are good value
Message-ID: <n1275218779.46507@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Someone asked why they did not hear more about Ten Tec kits.

Well, I posted something earlier, and probably have one of the larger collection of TT things both built and unbuilt! They are certainly made with arguably what is the finest manual in kit building history, until the K2 appeared. (They went Heath several steps better!) Can't really compare TT to Elecraft, (as I have a FT manual, and not the final version). Ten Tec manuals are great, for features like the component ID charts in the covers, for the new to kit building. The illustrations are in multicolor in some cases, and the books are spiral bound to lay flat on the bench, (as is the K2 book.)

One of the little noted features, which I consider a big plus, is that the Ten Tec kits have prefinished, anodized cases, in steel, so they are rugged and durable. They are magnetically, as well as electrical field shielded. Of course, you have to remember they are like Henry Ford's cars, and you must like flat black! :-) [I was very pleased to see Dave offer his Red Hot Radios, with the RED case!]

Some Ten Tec cases are a double shell construction design, which adds weight, and might not appeal to back packers, but then it has its place, like in the SWR-Power Meter, where you do not want use of RG 8 coax to drag the thing off the Field Day club operating table. Now of course, RG 8 would not be in the back pack, so maybe they need a case alternate model, if you took the power meter along. Probably most backpack rigs use precut to resonance antennas, not requiring a meter. That keeps it simple.

But, perhaps that is the issue with some folks here, they mainly want the smaller cased radios, suited for camping by backpacking the thing into the site.

Ten Tec seems to have improved their boards; (some folks with early transceivers seemed to have had non silk screened boards.) All mine have silk screens and masking as we have come to love and expect from Norcal, and the commercial QRP kit cos.

A neat thing about some of the Ten Tec models is the commonality of certain boards and case parts. That is showing economy in design, and adapting existing dies and tools to additional models. And keeping costs down! For

example, my Ten Tec superhet kit shares a common display board with the 2 meter transceiver. Some parts and controls are used on the transceiver version but not on the receiver only, as you would expect. The transceivers and transverters seem to share a very similar case. Thus, all my Ten Tec stuff will sit well together, it belongs to each other.

If you read back in the QRP-L archives, you will find Ten Tec kits mentioned. It is just that they are basic radios, and QRP-L seems to draw more current discussion of whatever design is at the cutting edges, like the DSW, and the K2. There has been a quantum leap in QRP designs in a very short time. So much so, any one manufacturer is going to have trouble keeping up with all the variations, innovations, and still be able to make a profit. And after all, the larger companies like Ten Tec are there to make a profit, while the one man operation may be doing it as a side line, for the love of the hobby. Small companies can react to market demands, while it takes big ones, (Ten Tec is relatively big, compared to any other QRP vendor, I think you would agree), a lot longer. More chain of command, etc. For one thing, Ten Tec is in a number of other businesses, such as their chassis boxes, military radios, and the prebuilt ham lines, which has a major introduction under way of the Computer Radio, the Pegasus, an \$895 competitor to the Kachina(!) and a new all mode VHF radio about to appear. A lot of things on their plate, so they do not promote kits all the time, like some others do.

Finally, another reason you do not hear about Ten Tec kits over here, is there is another Reflector, at contesting.com for Ten Tec discussions, and many of us are also subscribers over there!

72, Stuart K5KVH

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 99 16:44:58 -0800
From: Anthony Felino <anthony@pacinfosb.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49896] morse
Message-ID: <Chameleon.936922922.anthony@anthony>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have noticed that it is only relatively recently that newcomers to CW have been using KN a lot, and most of them send it as two letters. K works just fine and is a lot snappier. That is what most of the more experienced ops use. KN has its place, but I think it should be used only in the circumstance when you absolutely do not want anyone else to come back, an occasion which should be quite rare.

I have often heard the use of C instead of QRL? by experienced

ops, but it is the Morse C (didit dit) and not International C. When I say Morse here, I am referring to American Morse as opposed to the International Morse Code that we all use on the air. Many Morse characters are used in Ham Radio. "E"S for "and" is simply the Morse ampersand character, and many hams send it with a shorter than normal space between the E and S, just as in Morse. In the nineteenth century, the ampersand was in very frequent use in writing, so Morse had a character for it. I have also heard the ? used instead of a comma. Our ? is the Morse period, as this usage echos. Many hams use a long dash for zero. This is standard Morse. The ARRL approved AA for line separator in handling traffic is the Morse comma.

Our prosigns AR and SK come from Morse. They are contractions of Morse FN (for Finished) and 30 (end, still used in proofreading.) Try <http://web.idirect.com/~rburnet/wirecode.htm> for more of the numeric codes such as 73, etc.

I think a lot of new hams think that CW communication is pretty slow, based on the fact that when you start out at 5wpm it takes 20 minutes or so just to exchange RST, QTH, and Name. But with the use of common abbreviations, appropriate procedure, the average speed of 15wpm or so, and some "editing." most of us get a lot of conversation in a short period of time. And that's without excessive skill.

I have been a ham for 35 years and have never used a keyer. It has just occurred to me after reading QRP-L that a lot of you out there are using keyers. I thought you were all using hand keys! Good fists! How many of us still use hand keys?

Entirely unrelated, my friend Ken, KF6NUR, is putting together a WW2 aircraft VHF radio (3W) and wants to know if there is any 2m AM activity, and if so, on what freq. He will have to buy a crystal.

73, WN6Q

Anthony Felino, Pacific Information Design
email: anthony@pacinfosb.com, afelino@eng.delcoelect.com
telephone: (805) 730 1565, x25
fax: (805) 730 1569

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 20:25:40 -0400

From: mailbox-gaskins <pgaskin@imcnet.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Cc: pgaskin@imcnet.net
Subject: [49897] NA Contest Logging Software
Message-ID: <199909100025.UAA09738@ns1.imcnet.net>

Still have the NA software version 10.28 for sale for \$40.00 plus
\$5.00 Priority ship(I'm just to stupid to enjoy it!!!HIHI)

This is the original diskette with the manual and does not have
my name or call anywhere on it.I'm " burning" the copies upon selling
it.

NA is easily configured for any QRP contests not already included.
Payment is by money order.You may contact me at pgaskin@imcnet.net
for any further information.

72

Pete

N2PG

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 19:25:35 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <KG8L@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49898] Re: prosigns
Message-ID: <001e01befb23\$0112f7c0\$737054d8@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Of course!! That one threw me for a while. A question mark for a comma??
Never heard of that one.

But thanks to Mike, I know what we're talking about. I even use it myself.

NAME IS NICK ? NICK

The ? meaning, "Didja get it? In case you didn't, here it comes again."

72,

Nick

BTW, these usage things remind me of a question I asked my mentor (K5IVT)
back around 1963. "Why are all these guys sending 'NST'" all the time?

He was perplexed for a moment, then sent something and said, "What's that?"

"NST", I replied.

So then the sent: Dah and asked "What's that?" "T", I replied

Then dit

Then dididit

Then dah

Oh, now I get it. Folks just run the first two together. I was doing it myself as soon as I picked up my on-the-air accent.

-----Original Message-----

From: KG8L@aol.com <KG8L@aol.com>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Date: Thursday, September 09, 1999 6:12 PM

Subject: Re: prosigns

>Not that I've ever heard...however a question mark MAY be used to signal
>'repeat'...e.g. QTH Wichita Falls, TX ? Wichita Falls, TX.

>

>72/73,

>

>Mike

>KG8L

>

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 20:33:51 -0400

From: S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>

To: SFIKE@twa.com

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [49899] Re: QRP vote -NO I WOULDN'T

Message-ID: <37D851EF.880DD96A@worldnet.att.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

... for the following reasons:

1.) an opinion poll is just that -opinion. (pls consult "EARTH: flat vs round" - as reported in the Roman Gazette/CBS poll of 1401 A.D.) Opinion has relationship to "reality" proportional to % of absolute ultimate truth re topic. Who would you vote for in that category?

2.) Opinion polls are deceptive, counter-productive, lame excuses for acquiring gained experience, knowledge and wisdom when applied to marriage, politics and QRP. (perhaps in other fields as well... I just don't know)

3.) Opinion, applied unwisely in above mentioned arenas, result in the kinds of problems we suffer daily in those arenas. Further, they represent an impediment to real joy, knowledge and wisdom. (consider Leonardo's world. Frank Zappa's even)

Personally, I like to experiment and share experiences with do-ers. I like to read/hear opinions as right-now-snap-shots of thinking in a dynamic state -not in some kind of stasis. But that's just me.

72

=s=

SFIKE@twa.com wrote:

>

> I read a posting about a week ago that somebody hosted a voting contest for

--

'Seab' Lyon - AA1MY
Beacon NY USA FN-31
QRP-L 574 ARCI 9253

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 20:34:01 +500
From: Terry Bendell <terryb@bmts.com>
To: <kq0i@juno.com>
Cc: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49900] Re:
Message-ID: <199909100028.UAA07060@Alice.BMTS.Com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

On 1999-09-09 kq0i@juno.com said:

>He will get to the bottom of it and BANISH those that make this
>list an unhappy experience for some who want to do good.

Not to criticize or support poor manners or passionate e-mail I don't
Feel Chuck should or would Censure private e-mail outside of this
refelctor. Remember the individual said they received them outside
of the reflector.

73

Terry

Net-Tamer V 1.11.2 - Test Drive

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 20:33:41 -0400
From: Ed Kessler <edkess@epix.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49901] Component ID Help
Message-ID: <37D851E5.8D9FEC0F@epix.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Would like to play around with the Inductance Adapter For a DVM as per
ARRL Handbook 1999, page 26.22.

The circuit uses a specified 75HC132 chip, QUAD NAND Gate.

I cannot find that chip in my supplier catalogs etc.

Can I substitute a 74HC132?

Thanks for your help,

73's
Ed, AA3SJ

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 19:34:09 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <ku7y@dri.edu>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49902] Re: An answer, a thankyou, an apology and a backlasH...
Message-ID: <003101befb24\$33806700\$737054d8@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>And I do take offense at being thrown into a "box" and labled
>as a big negative force to (I'm guessing a bit here) this list
>and maybe even amateur radio in general.
>

>I would much prefer to be judged on merit and not on how many
>birthdays I've had.
>

Boy, I'm with Ron on this one. I can take a joke and even a little stereotyping, but I'm starting to think people believe this stuff.

For the record, all too many of the hams I know are 50 or older. And ALL of them, like me, are concerned about the fact that we don't have an influx of youngsters. None of them want to keep people out.

One of the SENIOR guys in my local club carries almost the entire weight of the local VE effort on his own back. If you don't know what that is, it means he's working to bring new people into the hobby.

So to those droning on incessantly about the old boys' network and so forth--give it a rest. Try using your noggin a little and judging people as individuals.

72,

Nick, WA5BDU
Area 51 (Age 51)

Now, where did I put my teeth?

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 17:43:03 -0700
From: "Eric Swartz WA6HHQ, EleCraft" <erics@elecraft.com>
To: The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, elecraft@qth.net
Subject: [49903] Re: [Elecraft] RS 3 amp linear power supply question
Message-ID: <37D85417.7980@elecraft.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yep, there is a voltage setting pot on the regulator PCB. I set mine for 14v.

This assumes it is the REGULATED 3A Radio Shack supply. They also make a unregulated 3A supply that you can not adjust.

73, Eric WA6HHQ
<http://www.elecrafter.com>

The Boices wrote:

>
> Just picked up one of the Radio Shack 3 amp linear power supplies on sale
> (\$33). It's real steady at 13.8 volts, dipping about .1 volt under
> transmit load from my K2.
>
> What I want to do, tho, it pump up the voltage to around 14 volts, to be
> able to adequately charge the K2's internal battery. Without opening it up
> and potentially voiding the warranty for no reason, is this supply easily
> modded to increase the voltage? Mayhaps a simple tweak of a pot?
>
> 72,
>
> Mike Boice, KW1ND
> New Gloucester, Maine FN43uw
> QRP-L # 576 ARCI ARS # 188 K2 # 185 NorCal
>

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 20:43:14 -0400
From: The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49904] DX or not DX
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.19990909204314.007c1a40@pop.megalink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Ya know, something I've always wondered.....being in the US, when I hear a DX station call "CQ DX," is he REALLY asking for anyone outside his country or immediate region, or does he also want to avoid US hams as well, seeing as how the US isn't really all that hard to snag. I've often wondered at this, seeing as how some DX stations will repeat the "DX" part over and over, even if there are only a couple thousand hams in their own country.

Am I paranoid (on this topic, anyway) or what?

72,

Mike Boice, KW1ND
New Gloucester, Maine FN43uw
QRP-L # 576 ARCI ARS # 188 K2 # 185 NorCal

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 19:45:28 -0500
From: Jeff Davis <jeff@n9avg.org>
To: QRP-L List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49905] beating prosigns to death
Message-ID: <19990909194528.A5964@n9avg.org>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Jeez Folks,

This prosign thread has become a circular argument. Everyone wants to send good and proper CW but it seems you can't get any two hams to agree on proper usage of BK and BK. It's a wonder we can communicate at all!

You guys slug it out and I'll go make a contact and use BK to mean "back to you" ,,,, what the heck, from what I've read here, there's a 50-50 chance that's proper usage!

--
72 de Jeff, N9AVG

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 17:56:01 -0700
From: "Russ Carpenter" <russ@natworld.com>
To: "QRP-L List" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49906] Results of the SEPTEMBER SPARTAN SPRINT
Message-ID: <199909100056.RAA12545@guppy.pond.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Does it get any better than this?

Labor Day featured a two hour overlap of QRP Sprints: the Michigan Labor Day Sprint and the September Spartan Sprint. The bands were crawling with sprinters, especially 20 meters. The two sponsoring organizations had formally coordinated their events, so that all sprinters were regarded as participating in both events simulutaneously.

The following logs were submitted for the Spartan Sprint component. If your

station weighed more than a sperm whale, we assigned a weight of 30 pounds. Each contact received one point.

The Soapbox has been published separately in The ARS Sojourner.

<http://www.natworld.com/ars> Don't miss this fascinating document! It includes, but is not limited to, the remarkable feats of microwatter Paul Stroud, AA4XX.

Thanks for supporting the Adventure Radio Society and The Spartan Sprints.

THE SKINNY DIVISION (results sorted in order of points per pound)

Call	Name	80m	40m	20m	15m	10m	Total Qs	Wt.	Qs/ Pound
W3TS	Mike	0	0	35	0	0	35	.6	58.33
W5RXP	Rich	0	0	40	0	0	40	1.1	36.36
N8NRG	Bill	0	0	29	0	0	29	1	29.00
AA7QU	Russ	0	3	73	3	0	79	5.5	14.36
N0SXX	Gary	0	14	0	0	0	14	1.2	11.67
KI6SN	Richard	0	9	0	0	0	9	.9	10.00
K4ZM	Jim	0	6	34	0	0	40	5.3	7.55
AA4XX	Paul	0	0	17	0	0	17	2.4	7.08
K04WX	Mike	0	0	12	0	0	12	1.7	7.06
AA2VX	Mike	0	0	20	0	0	20	3	6.67
N7CEE	Bruce	0	4	12	0	0	16	2.5	6.40
N0IBT	Dave	0	0	14	0	0	14	4.5	3.11
KB9UUY	Mark	0	18	0	0	0	18	6.1	2.95
K1QM	Joel	0	0	6	2	0	8	3	2.67
WD6CCS	Bill	0	3	2	0	0	5	1.9	2.63
AB5WX	Dave	0	1	26	0	0	27	11	2.45
KD3FG	Jon	0	0	13	1	0	14	7	2.00
AF5Z	Bob	0	16	38	0	0	54	30	1.80
N2CQ	Ken	0	13	40	0	0	53	30	1.77
KB9LCK	Chris	0	0	12	0	0	12	7	1.71
HP1AC	Cam	0	0	18	0	0	18	12	1.50
KH6B	Dean	0	0	8	1	0	9	6	1.50
K07X	Alan	0	0	39	1	0	40	30	1.33
W0UFO	Mert	0	0	38	0	0	38	30	1.27
K7TQ	Randy	0	1	5	0	0	6	5.8	1.03
KQ0I	Mark	0	0	31	0	0	31	30	1.03
AA5YX/2	John	0	5	0	0	0	5	5	1.00
W9SUL	Dave	0	2	21	0	0	23	30	0.77
AE4GX	Sam	0	1	19	0	0	20	30	0.67
K3PG	Paul	0	11	8	0	0	19	30	0.63
K2HPV	Herb	0	3	14	0	0	17	30	0.57
KA8LLE	Ben	0	3	13	0	0	16	30	0.53
NR1C	Mike	0	10	2	0	0	12	30	0.40

AB0GO	Dave	0	0	5	0	0	5	30	0.17
KD4MSR	Scott	2	0	0	0	0	2	30	0.07

THE TUBBY DIVISION (results sorted in order of points)

Call	Name	80m	40m	20m	15m	10m	Total Qs
AA7QU*	Russ	0	3	73	3	0	79
AF5Z	Bob	0	16	38	0	0	54
N2CQ	Ken	0	13	40	0	0	53
W5RXP	Rich	0	0	40	0	0	40
K07X	Alan	0	0	39	1	0	40
K4ZM	Jim	0	6	34	0	0	40
W0UFO	Mert	0	0	38	0	0	38
W3TS	Mike	0	0	35	0	0	35
KQ0I	Mark	0	0	31	0	0	31
N8NRG	Bill	0	0	29	0	0	29
AB5WX	Dave	0	1	26	0	0	27
W9SUL	Dave	0	2	21	0	0	23
AE4GX	Sam	0	1	19	0	0	20
AA2VX	Mike	0	0	20	0	0	20
K3PG	Paul	0	11	8	0	0	19
KB9UUY	Mark	0	18	0	0	0	18
HP1AC	Cam	0	0	18	0	0	18
K2HPV	Herb	0	3	14	0	0	17
AA4XX	Paul	0	0	17	0	0	17
KA8LLE	Ben	0	3	13	0	0	16
N7CEE	Bruce	0	4	12	0	0	16
N0IBT	Dave	0	0	14	0	0	14
N0SXX	Gary	0	14	0	0	0	14
KD3FG	Jon	0	0	13	1	0	14
KB9LCK	Chris	0	0	12	0	0	12
NR1C	Mike	0	10	2	0	0	12
K04WX	Mike	0	0	12	0	0	12
KI6SN	Richard	0	9	0	0	0	9
KH6B	Dean	0	0	8	1	0	9
K1QM	Joel	0	0	6	2	0	8
K7TQ	Randy	0	1	5	0	0	6
AA5YX/2	John	0	5	0	0	0	5
WD6CCS	Bill	0	3	2	0	0	5
AB0GO	Dave	0	0	5	0	0	5
KD4MSR	Scott	2	0	0	0	0	2

* Contest Manager not eligible

Russ Carpenter, AA7QU
Contest Manager for The Adventure Radio Society

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 20:59:54 EDT
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49907] 2N2 certificates # 10 and 11 awarded
Message-ID: <c82df9d3.2509b20a@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,

I thought I'd tell you all that we are up to certificate #s 10 and 11, both awarded to Howard Kraus K2UD. Howard, you didn't get them into the single digits, but wow, what beautiful work. Worth the wait I'd say. And you do have the first two two digit certificates ever awarded. Let's see, you are the 2nd person to build 2 rigs, and now have the first two 2 digit numbers. Must be some kind of numerology in there somewhere.

Your pictures and three page letter were great. Guys, Howard built two 2N2s simultaneously! And the great thing was that he built them side by side, so each step was done twice. Troubleshooting then required only finding faults in one rig, then translating the cure over to the other!

Would you believe Howard's first two QSOs were with Steve Weber KD1JV and then Jim Kortge K8IQY. For those who don't know them, Steve is the wonder up in New England who turns out short-run kits of amazing quality single handed, for the fun of it (like his SA/SA MK2 spectrum analyzer) and Jim is the designer and writer who invented the 2N2/40. How 'bout them for the first two contacts with a pair of new homebrewed rigs, invented by one of them!

Now, I still have certificate paper left for at least ten or fifteen more 2N2/40 completion certificates, and they make pretty neat wallpaper for your shack. Send me a picture (low res digital is just fine) and the call of your first QSO with your 2N2/40, and please, a SASE big enough so I don't have to fold your certificate, say 9 x 12 or so. My callbook address is fine for quite a few years now. Get 'em while they're hot (and free!)

72 and big congrats to Howard.

Preston Douglas WJ2V

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 20:05:01 -0500
From: Glen Reid <k5fx@flash.net>
To: AQRQ List <AQRQ@onelist.com>, HQRP List <hqrp@stevens.com>, QRP-1 <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49908] Austin QRP Club Meeting this Saturday
Message-ID: <37D8593D.B01D0A3B@flash.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

A reminder to all of the A QRP Club meeting this Saturday.

Come and help me celebrate my 53rd Birthday.

See the web page <http://www.flash.net/~k5hgb/aqrp.html> for the full details

gr

--

GLEN REID
K5FX/M BGF

Austin...in the beautiful hill country of TEXAS...

Austin QRP Club # Pi

Email: k5fx@arrl.net

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 21:05:24 EDT
From: n5ib@juno.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [49909] OT - non-QRP dummy load
Message-ID: <19990909.195531.7871.3.N5IB@juno.com>

Found in Junque Boxe

"Ohmite Mfg. Co. Chicago Dummy Antenna Pat. Pend." that's what written on it.....

This critter is essentially a light bulb - a clear, spherical glass envelope about 3" in diameter with a ceramic base having four pins arranged in a square pattern about 1/2" on center (two of larger OD than the other two - internal connections being made to the two larger ones) It appears to have four filament wires in parallel (to minimize inductance ??) and the dc, room temperature resistance is about 15 ohms. Handwritten on the glass post INSIDE the envelope are the numbers 244 and

13. There are no other markings such as watts, amps, etc. The envelope appears to be intact, though there is a tiny glass chip loose inside. I have no way to test for the integrity of the seal, vacuum, or possibly inert gas fill.

It looks like it could be a worthwhile antique for someone's collection, but I clearly have no use for this object, and offer it to whomsoever wishes to pay the postage to receive it. It will have to be packed carefully, with lots of bubbles and peanuts, so I'm not sure it would go for the priority mail flat rate. Not likely to be more than \$10 or so, however.

Anybody want a dummy load that doubles as a a light to read the log by?

73

Jim N5IB

Get the Internet just the way you want it.
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!
Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 13:27:11 -0400
From: aa5yx@juno.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49910] Re: AA/AAA Battery Capacities
Message-ID: <19990909.211816.15934.0.aa5yx@juno.com>

Try this page :
<http://electronicsusa.com/batteryinfo.html>

John Harper AA5YX/2
HW-9, OHR-100A/20m, NC40A, SST/30, NC20
YashicaMat 124G Info Page: <http://home.att.net/~j..harper>

On Thu, 09 Sep 1999 07:06:35 -0700 Phil Wheeler <w7ox@mindspring.com>
writes:
>All ..
>
>Can anyone point me to a website with info on AA and AAA Alkaline
>battery performance/capacity?

Get the Internet just the way you want it.
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!
Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 21:21:27 -0400
From: jmarran@juno.com
To: QRP-L@LEHIGH.EDU
Subject: [49911] TEN-TEC T KITS....
Message-ID: <19990909.212211.-34731.0.JMarran@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings all! I read the post referring to the quality of the T Kits from Ten Tec. I have in my possession a Ten Tec PM 1 that, when I became the proud owner of it, was in horrid condition. Put bluntly, the RX was suffering. A few years later the kits became available...I purchased the model 1056 DC RX kit. I chose it because it was DC, much like the original circuit in the Powermites. To sum it up...it is a great rx for \$29! The performance is more than adequate for QRP work...and the bandspread/bandpass controls make tuning better than originally provided.

For such a small kit, one could do much worse than to use this rx for their own qrp projects. I'm planning on buying another one for casual monitoring of the 10m satellite downlinks.

72/73.....and GO BILLS!

John Marranca, Jr KB2HSH

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 21:58:13 -0400
From: neil tanner <ntan@crosslink.net>
To: qrp list <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49912] re:wrotten cw
Message-ID: <37D865B5.38C77A78@crosslink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I sure hope the issue of bad typing doesn't come up....
72-- Neil WA4CHQrp

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 20:58:44 -0500

From: Tim Ahrens <tahrens@hilconet.com>
To: rules@bellsouth.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49913] Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP
Message-ID: <37D865D4.B9AE057A@hilconet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Randy - I did the ATV/RC plane thing about 10 years ago.. used a 'Senior Telemaster', camera, xmtr & battery pack. Worked pretty good.. always recorded the flights, 'just in case' ;-)

Had extra large wheels on the bird, and put the camera between the struts in a Tupperware Celery keeper (don't tell my wife where it went). Cut a hole in the front, and positioned the camera so it could look out. In those days, the only available cameras took a bunch of guts to work, hence the large container. When you took off, or landed, it looked like you were going through the jungle!

I only flew it a couple of times while 'only' watching the monitor.. when it's up real high, it is easy to lose, and should the downlink have problems, you can kiss the bird goodbye. That's probably going to be one of the most important things to consider,, if you don't have visual contact on it, and something goes awry, then you'd best have LOTS of liability coverage. There are variations on your theme... flying it from inside a 'chase' car... seems that folks do this for endurance flying, etc.

It was a fun project & really didn't cost that much... more. Of course when you talk big RC, everything is expensive!

OBQRP - I was only running about 4 watts PEP from the ATV xmmitter.

cu

Tim W5FN

>
> I think another neat idea would be to build a plane,
> install an ATV transmitter in the thing, and fly the
> thing via remote TV pick-up. If you added a decent

> sized fuel tank, you could even have a ham 100 miles
> away pick up control of the thing, fly it over his/her
> area, land it, refuel, and send it back to the originator
> or on to another ham further down the line.
> How about taking the video feed and piping it over
> the net so everyone could watch? That would rock!

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 22:12:13 EDT
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
To: dandoooley@pipeline.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49914] Re: Still trying to decide on the best QRP rig
Message-ID: <4a4c37a9.2509c2fd@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 9/8/99 2:48:10 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
dandoooley@pipeline.com writes:

<< But, makes me wonder if there is possibly something wrong with the radio
that I'm missing.

>>

I reviewed the Emtech NWxx's about 2 years ago in the QRP Quarterly and found them to be among the best of the lot then available. They are still unique in their test-as-you-go construction (they did it first, and others have imitated), their full 5 watt capability, and loud speaker audio. Don't sell them short against the others. And just because they haven't gotten a lot of hoopula this month, doesn't mean there's anything wrong with them. To the contrary, they are fine radios. That said, it is also true that there are competing rigs of very high quality now, some of which have new features like digital tuning systems, keyers, sealing wax and other fancy stuff. All of the current "name brands" have superb support, and you will enjoy dealing with these folks.

I do like the idea of comparing features for your self, and then deciding which radio comes closest to your requirements. So, you pays you hundred and takes your choice.

72,

Preston WJ2V

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 20:43:10 -0500
From: Oscar A Hoyt <k5ubs@juno.com>

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49915] Re: Still trying to decide on the best QRP rig
Message-ID: <19990909.211853.-444201.0.k5ubs@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Which radio? Well for my two cents worth...

There is NO perfect radio. Do what you are doing and pick best for you.
I personally bought the RedHot Norcal 20 and used a unique selection
process.... At HamCom the Red Hot called my name out each time I went
by the QRP table. So from now on I just listen for a radio to call my
name
and that is the one I buy. Suspect there is a RedHot 40 learning my name
as I type this. 8>)

Oscar Hoyt, ham since '55, ARRL, QCWA, QRP-L 1733, NORCAL

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Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 22:14:14 -0400
From: The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
To: erics@elecraft.com
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, elecraft@qth.net
Subject: [49916] Re: [Elecraft] RS 3 amp linear power supply question
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.19990909221414.007ab070@pop.megalink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Sho nuf.....there's a little pot on the board. One tweak and it's at
14.05 - good enough for me and my K2. Thanks Eric!

At 17:43 99/09/09 -0700, Eric Swartz WA6HHQ, EleCraft wrote:

>Yep, there is a voltage setting pot on the regulator PCB. I set mine for
>14v.

>

>This assumes it is the REGULATED 3A Radio Shack supply. They also make a
>unregulated 3A supply that you can not adjust.

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 22:33:53 -0400
From: Michael Bower <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49917] DSW 40 Problem
Message-ID: <37D86E11.81F11D93@ix.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi, list.

Through a suggestion from Jeff Francis (thanks, Jeff), I finally got my DSW-40 to receive signals. It is great. Before I just had silence. The problem was that I had not prepped the leads on my toroids so they didn't solder properly.

I took them off carefully, scraped the leads and put them back on. The only one that gave me problems is T2 which has two windings. The outer windings are now a little sloppy. But at least I am receiving.

But there seems to be a bug that I have no idea where to look.

Before I was receiving actual signals (before I re-did the toroids), with the rig on and set for defaults (power up), I was able to get from 7.040 to 7.100 in about 10.5 turns of the pot. (This is with the rig in the enclosure and all the controls mounted etc.). (After the toroids "fix") Now when I power it up, it comes up at 7.040 but I can't seem to get to 7.100. I turn and turn and turn and it goes up in freq for a while then drops backwards. For example, I will be on 7.049, go to 7.050 then I may end up at 7.03x. I also notice that the signals I am receiving over the air are going DOWN in tone as I tune UP the band. I would expect the tone to go UP as well.

Any ideas where to look? Prior to knowing about the toroids problems, I did some VOM checking according to your schematic. Everything that I checked was in spec EXCEPT for two cases. Pin 17 on the PIC is supposed to be 0 volts receive and it is 4 volts and pin 18 is supposed to be 4 volts and it is 0 volts. (Or the other way around. In any case, they were opposites from what the schematic showed.) I did not try any voltages in tx mode so can't tell on that.

Any ideas for me to try??

TIA

Michael N4NMR

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 19:25:06 -0700 (PDT)
From: Stanley Wilson <microres@crl.com>
To: PDouglas12@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49918] Re: Still trying to decide on the best QRP rig
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.990909192224.1102B-100000@crl4.crl.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Thu, 9 Sep 1999 PDouglas12@aol.com wrote:

> >>
> I reviewed the Emtech NWxx's about 2 years ago in the QRP Quarterly and found

> imitated), their full 5 watt capability, and loud speaker audio. Don't sell
> them short against the others. And just because they haven't gotten a lot

I agree with Preston the Emtech is really a well designed rig and very easy
to build, well worth the \$100 cost. It is also a easy one to add
features. Nothing tricky about the design almost cook book. de stan ak0b

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 22:43:07 -0400
From: mailbox-gaskins <pgaskin@imcnet.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: pgaskin@imcnet.net
Subject: [49919] NA Contest Software
Message-ID: <199909100243.WAA21785@ns1.imcnet.net>

If this is a repost, please excuse the bandwidth!!
I still have the NA Contest Logging Software ver.10.28 for sale for \$40 plus
\$5 Priority shipping.
This is the original diskette and manual without my name and call
registered. I don't know DOS well enough to use the program easily.
The few copies I have made for myself will be destroyed upon sale
of the original.
Payment is by money order and I may be reached at pgaskin@imcnet.net
if there are any further questions.

72

Pete
N2PG

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 02:26:52 -0400
From: wa8rxi@juno.com
To: ku7y@dri.edu
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49920] Re: Rotten CW
Message-ID: <19990910.023446.-216927.9.wa8rxi@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

On Thu, 9 Sep 1999 10:05:10 -0700 (PDT) Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
writes:

> The 1967 and 1976 ARRL handbooks show that the prosign BK is
> to be used meaning either "I am using BreakIn operation" or
> to send when "breaking in" when someone is sending.
>
> The 1994 ARRL Handbook shows the prosign BK as meaning
> "Back to you".

=== Then, the 1998 ARRL Handbook lists BK as Break; break me; break in.
I'm sooo confused..... So I'll do the following, if I hear BK I'll
immediatlely start transmitting,,,Okay ? ===

73, Rick - WA8RXI Taylor, MI.
Blue, Orange, Green, Brown, Slate!
White, Red, Black, Yellow, Violet, Mate! >>>>>>that's a big BK :-}

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Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 01:28:15 -0400
From: wa8rxi@juno.com
To: kw3u@warwick.net
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49921] Re: Rotten CW
Message-ID: <19990910.023446.-216927.6.wa8rxi@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jim, et. al.

If someone sends BK to me I expect no further info from the operator at the other end.

But, I have been fooled in the recent past when the op adds TO YOU.

BK - in my estimation has never been an abbreviation for BACK.

Also, the prosign BT when used in traffic handling, separates the address from the text and the text from the signature.

Since we are on the traffic trail, after the signature - if the prosign AR N is sent, that means I have no further traffic.

If AR B 2 (some number) - that means I have 2 more pieces of traffic for you.

In a normal CW QSO my understanding is that BT "should" be used prior to a change of thought or subject.

I ain't gonna change my mind about this, so don't throw any sales pitches

my way about how times are a changin', etc ! :-}

72, Rick - WA8RXI Taylor, MI.

Blue, Orange, Green, Brown, Slate!

White, Red, Black, Yellow, Violet, Mate!

=====

On Thu, 09 Sep 1999 11:40:31 -0400 jim seeber <kw3u@warwick.net> writes:

> > Again BK is break...not back to you

> > 'nuf said...Pete NV4V vvvvvv

>

> Hoo Boy,

> I've been using BK along with most of my contacts, and

> especially in contesting since way back when I used a

> wood burning radio.

> what is the proper prosign? In traffic handling BT is used

> before signature for break text I believe.

> This should be interesting.

> 72 Jim

> kw3u

>

>

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Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 22:08:03 -0500
From: Mike <mmorrow@companet.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49922] RE: Rotten CW
Message-ID: <37D87613.537B@companet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Chuck wrote:

"CPY is the common abbreviation for copy, but on the air I'll use CPI.
Gives the same info but in less time."

I write:

The use of non-standard abbreviations may work fine when the other station is copying you at well below his maximum speed capabilities and there is time for the receiving op's mental facilities to figure out what was intended, but if the receiving op is copying at the edge of his ability, then non-standard usage often throws a momentary monkey wrench into the mental works. I can't imagine how the fraction of a second difference saved by using a non-standard abbreviation is worth the potential momentary confusion caused to the receiving operator. IMHO.

73,

Mike / KK5F

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 22:12:49 -0500
From: Mike <mmorrow@companet.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49923] RE: Rotten CW
Message-ID: <37D87731.61E6@companet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Karl wrote:

"I think you will find that "K" is a general invitation to transmit while KN is an invitation to ONLY ONE STATION to transmit."

I write:

Of course, that is "ham-only" usage, as are many of the shortened abbreviations one hears on ham bands, few of which were used by professional commercial CW ops. For example, the KN sent as one character above is actually, officially, the left parentheses character "(" . I can't think of any good reason for the ham KN prosign to exist at all, nor the use of BK under any circumstance. The now nearly extinct commercial operator usages were always more elegant than those found on the ham bands. "TU" for "thanks" beats "tnx" any day, for example! The use of "X" for a period is very "amateur."

I never could understand why ham prosigns and abbreviations didn't more closely mimic the concise, elegant usage of those who earned their living with CW (the commercial CW operators).

All that is of small importance. IMHO, the greater problem is the scant attention some ops give to proper spacing between characters and words. Some sign their call with little or no spacing between characters. Poor character spacing is very "amateur" in every **bad** sense of the word.

73

Mike / KK5F

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 20:37:29 -0700 (PDT)
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49924] Just once more on rotten CW
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.9909092034370.19591-1000000@rotor.dri.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi All,

My spelling ain't noone too gud and Ive allaise felted
bad abot the poor soul I'm sending to when I hits em'
wid sum of my spelling attempts!

But I does tryes to spacesses em' alright!

73, Ron, SOWP 5545M,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 23:57:21 -0400
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49925] CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
Message-ID: <19990909.235723.-253693.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I got the catalog today, and there is no mention of CW except to mention that "no-code" Techs just have to pass a 5 WPM test to be able to use the rig. So, what does a dedicated CW op do? (This is somewhat rhetorical as I am not dedicated to any particular mode other than living...)

Use the venerable SBE (Side Band Engineers, a 60's ham manufacturer) method, key a very CLEAN twin-T audio oscillator into the mike. I don't have the model number anymore, BUT the gang at SBE made a device called the CodeApter if I remember correctly.

This was a keyed sine-wave oscillator complete with a vox-based PTT circuit, all in a small utility box. The key plugged into the box, and a mike cable plugged into the SB-34 (or the SB-33 if you had that model). The mike gain was adjusted to give you around 50% of the peak SSB level, and you were on the air on CW.

Look, if it worked in the 60's and 70's with discrete components, it's not going to take Rocket Science to do it now with digital technology, maybe even a daughterboard for the various flavors of TiCK's (Any possibility, Brad?)

I am sorry to see the marketing people at Tandy taking potshots at their feet again, but I/we can make their gear work right, and do it without investing a large chunk of cash in the process...

I am on the list for an HTX-10 at the local Radio Shack, are you?

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp
My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!

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Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 20:35:04 -0700
From: Gary L Surrency <gsurrency@juno.com>
To: nilsbull@juno.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49926] Re: 12m meters, finally . . .
Message-ID: <19990909.205718.-4043929.0.gsurrency@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Nils is right on about this subject.

Get on 10m, people. I worked XQ0YAF on 28.015 MHz today at about 2352Z.
That's Easter Island.

Freebanders were all around us.

Also worked 3D2RW on 15m just before that.
Fiji Island by my countries list.

10m seems to be best for DX here about an hour or two before sunset.

Although I worked these fellows on my TS-570D, I later turned on the K2
and could hear them better on it. So the upper band sensitivity on the K2
is excellent. Its noise floor is so low, you can just hear the sigs
better.

72, es gud dx.

Gary Surrency AB7MY QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)

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Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 21:09:18 -0700
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@mindspring.com>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49927] Unsubscribe
Message-ID: <37D8846E.72986248@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I will be traveling for a while and need to unsubscribe to keep from overloading my mail box.

But I've lost my print out of the listserv@lehigh.edu protocols.

I'd appreciate it if someone would tell me how to suspend (or, in extrema) unsubscribe.

TIA,

Phil W70X

Date: Wed, 8 Sep 1999 21:22:23 -0700
From: "Andreas Junge" <Andreas@atltech.com>
To: <boice@bigfoot.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49928] RE: DX or not DX
Message-ID: <000101befa7a\$ea5648f0\$0109010a@ANDI2000>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mike,

the guy calling CQ might be a newcomer who has never worked the US. Even W6 contacts are rare for some Europeans ...

Just listen who comes back to his CQ. If there is nobody else answering - go ahead and work him.

73,

Andreas, N6NU
Menlo Park, CA
K2 #00014

> -----Original Message-----
> From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of
> The Boices
> Sent: Thursday, September 09, 1999 5:43 PM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: DX or not DX
>
>
> Ya know, something I've always wondered.....being in the US, when I

> hear a DX station call "CQ DX," is he REALLY asking for anyone outside his
> country or immediate region, or does he also want to avoid US
> hams as well,
> seeing as how the US isn't really all that hard to snag. I've often
> wondered at this, seeing as how some DX stations will repeat the "DX" part
> over and over, even if there are only a couple thousand hams in their own
> country.
>
> Am I paranoid (on this topic, anyway) or what?
>
>
> 72,
>
> Mike Boice, KW1ND
> New Gloucester, Maine FN43uw
> QRP-L # 576 ARCI ARS # 188 K2 # 185 NorCal
>

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 23:48:11 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <n5ib@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49929] Re: OT - non-QRP dummy load
Message-ID: <009401befb47\$dc7caa80\$c466d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----
From: n5ib@juno.com <n5ib@juno.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Thursday, September 09, 1999 8:14 PM
Subject: OT - non-QRP dummy load

Hi Jim,

>Found in Junque Boxe
>
>"Ohmite Mfg. Co. Chicago Dummy Antenna Pat. Pend." that's what written
>on it.....

I've never heard of or seen anything like that. Sounds like a way-cool device for a collection to me, too! Hopefully, the person that receives it will bring it to a QRP get-together so we can all look at the thing :^). OH -- and mega-kudos to you, Jim, for doing this give away!

72/73,

Randy Jouett

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 23:52:51 -0500
From: guillotstutoring@juno.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49930] Re: Source of good inline fuse holders?
Message-ID: <19990909.235252.-928563.1.guillotstutoring@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Found some at AUTOZONE, both strong and cheap.
>Anyone know a good source of inline fuse holders? <

72, Ed Guillot, N5ED, New Orleans, LA
qrp-l#1951, qrparci#3988, ARRL(life)

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Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 23:02:30 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49931] PacifiCon Test Equipment Tutorial
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.9909092247490.19318-1000000@shell.rt66.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gang,
This year at PacifiCon, Darrel WB6BOR and myself will be hosting an informal test equipment session. I'll be bringing a signal generator

and some stuff, and Darrel will be bringing his oscscope and spectrum analyzer. The main idea is a hands on demonstration and examples of how to use primarily an oscscope and spectrum analyzer, for those of you who have one or the other, and a few typical tests that can be performed on QRP rigs. Some of the basic DO's and DON'Ts and how to make measurements. What delayed sweep does, or what that "Resolution Bandwidth" knob does. Between the two of us, hopefully we can answer most of your questions so you can put your test equipment to better use.

The only problem is WHEN to do it. We'd like to host it either friday night after dinner in the informal hospitality suite, or saturday night in the corner somewhere during/after the building contest. Or if enough interest, perhaps both. Since I know not everyone gets there friday night, I'd appreciate hearing from you as to what evening you would prefer, or think would be the best.

And I'd like to publicly thank Darrel for offering his equipment, which saves me from lugging this stuff all the way from New Mexico ... which means such an event would probably never happen otherwise.

72, Paul NA5N
NA5N@Rt66.com

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 23:01:25 -0600
From: Jeff Francis <jfrancis@frii.com>
To: Randy Jouett <rules@bellsouth.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49932] Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP
Message-ID: <19990909230125.A18422@geek.noducks.org>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Actually, this is quite common. With the size of cameras and transmitters these days, it's quite cheap and easy to do. Super Circuits even sells videos taken in-flight. In fact, it's so small and light now that people have even started doing it with R/C helicopters. With the addition of a very small GPS receiver and a little electronic video character and genlock widget (I forget who makes it - they advertise in Circuit Cellar Journal, though), you can even superimpose speed, altitude, and direction on top of the video feed so you know where you are. Others have sent the GPS data back by modulating the audio carrier at 300 or 1200bps.

On Thu, Sep 09, 1999 at 05:19:33PM -0500, Randy Jouett wrote:

> Gang,

>

> I was wondering if anyone has ever tried installing
> a QRP-beacon rig into a radio-controlled sail plane?
> I think that it would be cool to fly a sail plane around
> with a beacon and get some reports from other hams
> across the state on 2 or some world-wide reports on
> 6, if the band was open, of course.

>

> I think another neat idea would be to build a plane,
> install an ATV transmitter in the thing, and fly the
> thing via remote TV pick-up. If you added a decent
> sized fuel tank, you could even have a ham 100 miles
> away pick up control of the thing, fly it over his/her
> area, land it, refuel, and send it back to the originator
> or on to another ham further down the line.
> How about taking the video feed and piping it over
> the net so everyone could watch? That would rock!
> Anyone out there ever try this? How about a remote-
> controlled balloon that hams built and fly the thing across
> the country? We'd sure get a TON of free amateur
> advertising from the networks if we did something
> like this! Hmmm. I wonder if we could fly the
> balloon around the world, with a couple of countries
> taking part in the flying? That way, we could promote
> international ties and co-operation, and maybe we
> could get some of the third-world nations to give
> a hand with the flying and let their kids experience
> technology full in the face. BTW, the rigs would all
> be QRP, of course :^).

>

> Hmmm. Would a project like this be too ambitious
> or expensive for us? Could we spread the cost
> around some way?

>

>

> 72/73,

> ----

> Randy Jouett, AB5NI

>

--

	Jeff Francis - KC0BWS		Ack!	
	Level Three Communications		____/	
	Denver, CO USA DM79nr		\ o.0	
			=(_)=	

39d43m16.4s N 104d52m10.7s W	strong.	U
jfrancis@frii.com jeff@l3.net	--Unknown	
http://www.frii.com/~jfrancis		PRR...

+-----+-----+-----+

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 22:07:12 -0700
 From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@primenet.com>
 To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
 Subject: [49933] Re: Battery Float Charger
 Message-ID: <19990909220712.E11352@bob.localnet>
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I picked one up at the Tucson Harbor Freight. The price tag was \$14.95 and the salesman checked the flyers and computer and came up with the same price. Then he talked to the manager who said it was \$7.49 (I explained that their other stores were selling it at a discount).

Lot's of interesting stuff there, mostly from China.

Bob, W6SWE/7

On Wed, Sep 08, 1999 at 05:28:26PM -0700, M. Monninger wrote:

- > To follow up on this, since there seems to be some interest...
- >
- > Harbor Freight has a web site and you can order stuff on-line at
- >
- > <http://www.harborfreight.com/>
- >
- > The float charger is at
- >
- > <http://www.harborfreight.com/cpi/taf/DisplayItem.taf?ItemNumber=37137>
- >
- > If you want to call then, they're at 800-423-2567. The charger is item
- > #37137-5VGA. Price on the web page is \$7.49.
- >
- > Usual disclaimer applies...no connection with them except as a customer.
- > Just passing along some info for folks on the list.
- >
- > Plus, I take no responsibility for your finding all sorts of neat toys
- > there and spending way too much money and getting in trouble with your
- > spouse... ; -)
- >
- > 73... Mark AA7TA
- >
- >

>
>

--

Bob Nielsen Internet: nielsen@primenet.com
Tucson, AZ AMPRnet: w6swe@w6swe.ampr.org
DM42nh http://www.primenet.com/~nielsen

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 23:46:57 +0200
From: "Juan Jose Pastor Estornell" <juanjope@ctv.es>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49934] RE: 2N2/40 Mods, Mixer post amp and variable RF gain
Message-ID: <000401befb4c\$4a7943a0\$7f8b19d4@juanjopectv>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

> De: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
> A: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Asunto: 2N2/40 Mods, Mixer post amp and variable RF gain
> Fecha: lunes 6 de septiembre de 1999 15:14

>

> Hi Gang,

Hello everybody,

>

> I finally came to the conclusion that my 2N2/40 had too much gain.
> MSD was well below 0.1 uv and that's at least 10 times more than
> what's needed on 40 M, considering the average level of QRN, both
> natural and man made.
>
> So, I tried something that worked well with another rig I'm building
> and was having all kinds of problems with the post mixer amp. In a
> moment of frustration, I took the post mixer amp out completely and
> simply used a 1:4 transformer to match the output of the DBDM to the
> input of the xtal filter. The DBDM is of course, terminated with a 51
> ohm resistor and a 270 ohm or so resistor on the xtal filter side
> probably would be a good idea too.

>

Lately I have been playing with my new (here) SW40+ and I am really amazed by its performance thru the tough 40 meter band conditions in Europe. One of the things I have learned from it is that you have to choose very carefully the gain of a stage. Chapter 6 of Solid State Design deals with front end design and describes the problem very well. It seems it is not necessary to have more than

100 dB of overall amplification from the antenna lead to the headphones, at least under 10 MHz.

> I believe by removing the post mixer amp, the IMD is somewhat
> improved, as that amplifier has to deal with some pretty strong mixer
> products from near-by QRO stations and SWBC stations, which can cause
> overloading and distortion in the amplifier. Also, since the xtal
> filter isn't seeing as much strong wide band signals, there's less
> blow by.
>
snip ...

One thing I did not like of the original 2N2-40 rig was (is) the front end preamplifier. I would keep the post mixer amp and take that preamp away. As discussed in SSD, a good post mixer amp will increase both sensibility and dynamic range, while the front end preamp will help to overload the mixer with the bigger signals (and get overloaded itself). You will lose 4 more dB, but it is easier to add some additional dBs in the audio chain if necessary.

Another subject: the sidetone. I sent a message regarding about that some weeks ago. It seems that R31 (47K resistor) in the initial mute circuit design was way too low. I do not recall who did, but it was suggested to raise its value to 4M7 (4.7 megaohms) to have a comfortable sidetone level. I suggested to take the C101 (2N7, .0027 uF) capacitor away in the alternative mute circuit proposed by Jim K8IQY, but I have not checked if it works (I have not begun building my "Euro2N2" transceiver yet ...). If you are not a 2N2222 purist, the classical FET muting circuit by Roy Lewallen W7EL will solve it anyway and probably with a smaller parts count.

Good luck with all those 2N2-40 transceivers and hope to copy (using pencil and paper ...) you all soon between 7.030 and 7.025, maybe this next month (I will be on holidays break and out for a trip next week ...). Greetings from Spain!.

73, 72 de Juanjo, EC5ACA/QRP. EA-QRP #104, G-QRP #9742, QRP-L #1662.

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 99 01:38:09 -0400
From: chuck.olson@sbaonline.gov
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49935] COMPONENT ID HELP
Message-ID: <9909100138.A8327wk@sbaonline.gov>
Content-Type: text

ED>Would like to play around with the Inductance Adapter For a DVM as per

ED>The circuit uses a specified 75HC132 chip, QUAD NAND Gate.

ED>Can I substitute a 74HC132?

Ed -

That same pair of inductance/capacitance adapters was published in the November 1996 issue of Popular Electronics - the 74HC132 was specified.

Best Regards,

Chuck, WB9KZY

Jackson Harbor Press - <http://home.att.net/~jacksonharbor>

Date: 10 Sep 99 01:56:07 EDT
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: ku7y@dri.edu, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49936] Re: [Re: An answer, a thankyou, an apology and a backlasH...]
Message-ID: <19990910055607.14200.qmail@www0h.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hey Ron,

I wouldn't take it too seriously! :o) Remember, it is said: Old age and=

treachery will overcome youth and skill everytime! Ha! 73 Roy WA4DOU

-----=
- =

=

=

Monte St=

ark

<ku7y@dri.edu> wrote:

On Thu, 9 Sep 1999, Frank Ivan - K0FEI wrote:

=

> Sigh, I think the problem is that the members of the ham community are
> getting older and more set in their ways. The average ham is 53 years =
old.

Hmmmmm, this is something that I've been hearing since I became a ham in 1953. The average age then was something like 50ish too!

Now if we had only become one year older (the average age that is) during all those years the average age must now be something close to 100, not 50 something.... :-)

(I have NEVER heard, seen or read where the average age dropped!)

And I do take offense at being thrown into a "box" and labeled =

as a big negative force to (I'm guessing a bit here) this list and maybe even amateur radio in general.

I would much prefer to be judged on merit and not on how many birthdays I've had.

cul,

73, Ron, SOWP 5545M,

=2E.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....

=2E...ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....

=2E...QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

Get free email and a permanent address at <http://www.netaddress.com/?N=3D=1>

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 23:01:11 -0700
From: "Mont Pierce, KM6WT" <km6wt@netzero.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49937] RE: Rotten CW
Message-ID: <LOBBJKJKMAHICFDNKEJMEMHCDA.km6wt@netzero.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> > The 1967 and 1976 ARRL handbooks show that the prosign BK is
> > to be used meaning either "I am using BreakIn operation" or
> > to send when "breaking in" when someone is sending.
> >
> > The 1994 ARRL Handbook shows the prosign BK as meaning
> > "Back to you".
>
> === Then, the 1998 ARRL Handbook lists BK as Break; break me; break in.
> I'm sooo confused..... So I'll do the following, if I hear BK I'll
> immediatlely start transmitting,,,Okay ? ===

so you could say that the meaning of BK is dependent on the context
of which it is used?

What I find interesting is that BK (back2u) is very common on the
advanced portions of the bands but I don't think I've ever heard it
used on the novice bands.

This inconsistency is a little confusing, I'm sure especially to newbies.

73,
mont/km6wt bk?

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 08:21:46 +0200
From: iapizloj@bicc00.bi.ehu.es (Jon Iza)
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: iapizloj@bicc00.bi.ehu.es
Subject: [49938] Re: USA Visit
Message-ID: <9909100621.AA31764@bicc00.bi.ehu.es>

Folks,
I cannot agree more with Ed's (W1RFI) words about visiting ARRL HQ.
I was attending a Conference at Penn State in early August and I drove
all the way up to New England to visit my friends at UMass AND ARRL HQ.
I had fun, knew in person lots of folks that I know for years of reading
their stuff in both QST, QEX and/or the Internet. I enjoyed a chat with
Ed, Tracy and Zack, and they show me the "torture gallery" a.k.a. The Lab
where they subject rigs to all kind of nasty things for us to know that
there is sh.t everywhere and that some QRP rigs are much better than
multibutton, megawhistles boxes...
While visiting, I had a question for the Contests folks... Some of the
ARRL contests request non-US operators to use Power as "token". There
I went and asked: What should I send if I'm using less than half Watt?
If I have to round it to an integer, it would be Zero??? But from
the other side of one of those office cubicles wall a deep voice came
back (I guess it was the Contest God...) and sez: "000nnneee"

I guess that was the answer I was looking for...
While browsing on the pages of the Guests Book at W1AW I saw many
known signatures, even Doug's (KI6DS) on his New England trip...
My last sentence (it's not a word): Just do it!
jon, ea2sn

P.S. Another highlights were the visits to Dave NN1G and Cap Hossfield,
who coordinates the AAVSO group of Sudden Ionospheric Disturbances (SIDs)
but that's another story...

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1999 23:24:04 -0700
From: Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>
To: malman@world.std.com
Cc: qrp-l@LeHigh.edu
Subject: [49939] Re: Antenna Q: Ground mounting
Message-ID: <v0300782cb3fe53fbc72e@[216.26.2.79]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>FYI: The GAP does not use guy wires and the "counterpoise" is build-in.
>So the only support the antenna gets is from the ground mounted steel pipe.
Joel-and group. I have a Gap, and it definitely wants to be guyed about
2/3 of the way up. A simple nylon (or maybe a better non-stretch) line
will work.

Dan Presley-N7CQR-Portland, Or QRP-L #502

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 03:43:52 -0500
From: Stan Wilson <microres@crl.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49940] T2 and PSK31
Message-ID: <37D8C4C7.3661@crl.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Anyone running PSK31 using a T2 setup. I would like to exchange
information with anyone using the T2 or other qrp transmitter
circuit on PSK31.

Thanks, Stan AK0B microres@crl.com

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:13:00 +0200
From: "Hans Sundstrom" <hans.sundstrom@telia.com>
To: <talljazz@teleport.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49941] SV: Antenna Q: Ground mounting
Message-ID: <199909100913.LAA22767@d1o22.telia.com>

GAP also supplies an optional guy kit for the Titan and advices in the manual that the antenna should be guyed if not ground mounted.

73/72

Hans / SM4ATJ

-----Ursprungligt meddelande-----
Fr n: Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>
Till: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Datum: den 10 september 1999 10:15
mne: Re: Antenna Q: Ground mounting

>
>>FYI: The GAP does not use guy wires and the "counterpoise" is build-in.
>>So the only support the antenna gets is from the ground mounted steel pipe.
> Joel-and group. I have a Gap, and it definitely wants to be guyed about
>2/3 of the way up. A simple nylon (or maybe a better non-stretch) line
>will work.
>
>
>Dan Presley-N7CQR-Portland, Or QRP-L #502
>
>
>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:06:42 +0200
From: iapizloj@bicc00.bi.ehu.es (Jon Iza)
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Cc: iapizloj@bicc00.bi.ehu.es
Subject: [49942] Wattmeter mod to digital?

Message-ID: <9909100906.AA36904@bicc00.bi.ehu.es>

Folks,
many of you own a WM-1 or WM-2 wattmeter from OHR, or the
"real thing" published in QST...
The calibration procedure was to inject 6.9/0.69/0.069
volts for the ranges and adjust it to end of scale for
10/1/0.1 watts...
I wonder if someone has included a digital voltmeter
calibrated to measure 10.00 as per 6.9 Volts, and get
a digital indication??? How is linearity?
Inquiring minds wanna know!

Be well, and have a nice weekend.

jon, ea2sn

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 07:24:05
From: Robert McConnell <rmcconne@lightlink.com>
To: edkess@epix.net
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49943] Re: Component ID Help
Message-ID: <3.0.6.16.19990910072405.1a0789ee@pop.lightlink.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Weren't the 75 series parts just 74's tested for military temperature
ranges?

Bob McConnell
N2SPP

At 08:33 PM 9/9/99 -0400, Ed Kessler wrote:
>Would like to play around with the Inductance Adapter For a DVM as per
>ARRL Handbook 1999, page 26.22.
>
>The circuit uses a specified 75HC132 chip, QUAD NAND Gate.
>
>I cannot find that chip in my supplier catalogs etc.
>
>Can I substitute a 74HC132?
>
>Thanks for your help,
>
>73's
>Ed, AA3SJ

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 07:28:11 -0400
From: Peter_Simpson@ne.3com.com
To: myetsko@insydesw.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49944] second fuse in mobile rigs...necessary?
Message-ID: <852567E8.003DDC7F.00@usboxmta.ne.3com.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Mike -

I'm not sure that the "starter/ground strap" analysis holds up.

A failed ground strap would only be a problem if the radio somehow got between the starter ground and the battery's negative terminal I don't see how that could happen, unless:

Starter is bolted to engine (is starter body ground, or are there 2 lugs on starter? I can't recall)

Engine ground strap to battery fails, so starter needs another way to return ground current back to battery... perhaps through metal linkages connected between body & engine

Now current needs to get back through body to battery (there's normally a second ground strap there).

This ground strap, too, would have to fail, AND your rig ground would have to be directly connected to the battery, in order for the rig to be in the return path from the starter.

Note that your car stereo, engine computer, etc, don't have two fuses. The second fuse is ONLY necessary if you connect your radio's black wire DIRECTLY to the negative terminal of the battery, where it could end up being the only return path if the battery's ground lead failed. For a 50 watt VHF rig, which might draw 8 amps,

you'd be perfectly safe using a chassis ground and the existing wiring. I always use the cigarette lighter power wire.

72,
Peter, KA1AXY

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 07:03:30 -0500
From: crc <crc@io.com>
To: QRPL <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49945] Re: Rotten CW
Message-ID: <37D8F392.F7B1C407@io.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

What I would like to see is a program we can send to that will break apart our CW and let us know where we are weak. Most amateurs do not want to send sloppy code but often either have little feedback or are new or returning CW ops and need some help and practice. The big problem with self judging is by the time you are sloppy enough to tell it yourself you are absolutely horrific. And most operators are less than honest and overly kind when criticizing others' CW practices, which while a gentlemanly practice does little to help fix the problem. If there is a program like this I would appreciate someone letting me know where to get it.

Charlie
WA5KRF

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 07:09:24 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <boice@bigfoot.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49946] Re: DX or not DX
Message-ID: <000c01befb85\$5335a7c0\$2a7154d8@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've kinda wondered that too, but I figure I'm DX to him. The ones who leave no doubt are those who say, "No US". Haven't heard that one much but I have heard it.

Nick, WA5BDU

-----Original Message-----

From: The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Thursday, September 09, 1999 7:44 PM
Subject: DX or not DX

>Ya know, something I've always wondered.....being in the US, when I
>hear a DX station call "CQ DX," is he REALLY asking for anyone outside his
>country or immediate region, or does he also want to avoid US hams as well,

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 07:24:51 -0500
From: "Mark Hogan" <mhogan@email.msn.com>
To: "QRP LIST" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49947] Headphones
Message-ID: <004f01befb87\$bed55000\$6ae60181@mhoganws>

Ok so I have a confession...

I a cheapskate!

I've been using a set of Sony headphones from an old walkman for my 38s SST and NC-20. The left ear phone didn't work so well all the time, but I thought most of my hearing was gone there...

My better half did some ear coning on me Sunday, dang I can hear out of my left ear pretty darn good now.

Yesterday I went into rat shack and pick up some Optimus 15.00 in the ear headphones, they looked like top line, gold plated plug, nice black wind up case, etc...

My SST sounds completely different. My NC-20 has GREAT AUDIO NOW and I can finally hear the hiss that there is a mod for in QRPP...I should have done this when the SST first arrived. It was a joy to operate last night. I take back the part a few weeks ago about the SST sounding rough. Shame on me, it was the junky headphones! I can't wait for the AR-QRP net next week to see how all the QNI's sound, I may even get that bug to send out the right amount of dits.

Mark Hogan N50BC

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 09:06:17 -0400
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49948] Re: second fuse in mobile rigs...necessary?
Message-ID: <19990910.090618.-78969.1.wb2vuo@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Pete, and the List...

Yes, the second fuse IS necessary when the rig is connected to the battery, and that is the method recommended by most amateur rig manufacturers, and all the commercial land-mobile manufacturers I have dealt with.

I fried the circuit board ground foils in a Midland VHF radio when the ground straps failed under the hood. Lots of vaporized copper and carbon bits flying around! Almost as bad as the lightning-struck computer I just dissassembled and tossed.

The second fuse is cheap insurance. Use it!

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp
My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!

----- Forwarded message -----
From: Peter_Simpson@ne.3com.com
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 07:28:11 -0400
Subject: second fuse in mobile rigs...necessary?

-----<snip>-----

The second fuse is ONLY necessary if you connect your radio's black wire DIRECTLY to the negative terminal of the battery, where it could end up being the only return path if the battery's ground lead failed.

-----<snip>-----.

72,
Peter, KA1AXY

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Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 09:09:23 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: wb2vuo@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49949] Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
Message-ID: <37D90303.7B4B@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Keith, and gang,

Here we go again, those dirty rats down at Radio Shack went and designed a radio without asking us for our input! How dare they? Well, they have the right. Let's look at what they did?

They designed a SSB/FM radio for 10 meters. They left out CW. Is this so bad? I don't think so. Most of my phone operation over the last few sunspot cycles has been SSB on 10 meters. Not a lot, but often enough to remember certain QSOs like a three way with a VK, a W8 and me, crossing teh California Nevada state line one night.

If you want to work CW so badly, there are ways to accomplish it. But, in fact they appear to have designed a radio for teh car, where SSB/FM is the safer mode. The last thing you want while toodling along at 65 mph is to be concentrating on CW and run smack into the back of another car!

Lighten up. Buy an old HTX-100 and run CW. Do it when you're parked somewhere, you'll live longer! Meanwhile, for the car, I cannot see anything wrong with RS's offering!

73

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 08:18:43 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <crc@io.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49950] Re: Rotten CW
Message-ID: <007801befb8f\$150fba80\$2a7154d8@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, there are programs that will tell you if you're sending perfect code, if fact they're everywhere. If you have a TNC, it probably reads code in addition to doing packet.

It can be a good exercise, sending to one of these things. The problem is that these programs require machine perfect code. Most of us don't send code this way and don't want to. We run letters together and don't use full word spaces because the guy on the other end already knows what we're saying. (Or maybe it's just the word spaces that get squeezed.)

Machine perfect code is analogous to computer generated speech. It ... separates ... every ... word. In the real world, we run words together.

Of course (back to CW), we also tend to put in EXTRA space when sending a tough or important word.

The TR-Log logging program allows for all of this by allowing you to program in short spaces in your canned messages. You can sound like a human being instead of a machine.

But doing the things mentioned above and just plain sending lousy code are two different things. So I probably have to agree with your sad conclusion--those of us doing the poor sending probably don't know we're doing it.

But (another thought strikes)--As I said above, sending with too-close spacing is sometimes allright. Sending with elements of a character broken up is never OK. Like when a guy sends "NN" meaning "C". His "CQ" sounds like NN MET. In that case, sending to a machine reader COULD help. It's never OK to take letters apart!

72 and gud CW

Now BK to you,

Nick, WA5BDU

-----Original Message-----

From: crc <crc@io.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 7:06 AM
Subject: Re: Rotten CW

>What I would like to see is a program we can send to that will break apart
>our cw and let us know where we are weak. Most amateurs do not want to send
>sloppy code but often either have little feedback or are new or returning
cw
>ops and need some help and practice.

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 09:26:41 -0400
From: hamjoel@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49951] wrotten cw / wrotten rope
Message-ID: <19990910.092643.-270451.1.hamjoel@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

U little rascals U

Greetings from the north east... on wrotten cw... tape record ur cw and
lilsten to ur recording whyle listening to what u con-cider good cw...
shuld be a contrast thair iffing ur cw is wrotten...

u kneaux the ARRL HAND book and probably utter arrl publications have a
list of a--brief-e-ations used in cw in various applications... it's good
to have a standard... kinda like a dictionary... keeeps most peoples
spealing the same word the same way...

U sea ham radio has a tradition... an age old way of doing some things
that keeps things in ordor... but u kneaux dat.

I guess now a days and nites we wanna do things "our way" and not hafta
learn the traditional (proper) way to do thangs. shore leads to lots of
confusion... kinda like holdin up ur antenna with wrotten wrope... sooner
or later sumthin 'citing gonna happen...

My sew-lou-shun would be to get some arrl operating manuals and learn
the standart operating procedure and follow it...

U kneaux cw has ban round fo a long time and excellent procedures have
been established fo nets, messages, rag chewing, u name it... now iffing
we are gonna partake in some form of this cw practice it seems reasonable
to get a book on the subject and learn the standard operating
procedure... and follow it iffing u don't, u show gonna confuse
lotta people....

now go make a kit or sumthin and get on the air with ur wrotten cw and
pro-seed-your.... hee hee I sea u thair.

Joel KE1LA
In Maine

Get the Internet just the way you want it.
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!
Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 09:36:30 -0400
From: Ken Newman <N2CQ@citnet.com>
To: epaqrp-1@lehigh.edu, QRP-L@lehigh.edu, njqrp@njqrp.org
Subject: [49952] QRP Contesting This Weekend
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.19990910093630.008cc840@mail.citnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

~~~~~  
QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

September 11-13, 1999

~~~~~  
The Hiram Percy Maxim 130th Birthday Celebration (Not a contest)

Sep 02 - 0000z to Sep 11 - 2400z

Lots of fun to contact ARRL Appointees, Officers, Staff and Life Members. ARRL folks will use /130 after the callsign. Exchange is RST, Appointment and name. Others send RST and name. Awards available from ARRL if you have 25 or more /130 stations in your log. See QST Sep '99 Pg. 48, or Bulletin ARLX006 for details.

Look for N2CQ/130 sending: 599 LM (Life Member) Ken.

~~~~~  
ARRL September VHF QSO Party (All) ... QRP Category

Sep 11 - 1800z to Sep 13 - 0300z

Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/rules-09vhf.html>

~~~~~  
ARS - Top of the World "Happening" (All) *** QRP Field Event

Sep 11 - 1800z to Sep 13 - 0300z

Rules: http://www.natworld.com/ars/pages/top_of_the_world/top_rules.html

(Linked to ARRL September VHF QSO Party)

~~~~~  
Later in September.....

~~~~~  
Washington State Salmon Run (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Sep 18 - 1200z to Sep 19 - 0700z

Sep 19 - 1200z to Sep 19 - 2400z

Rules: <http://www.eskimo.com/~oolon/wwwdxc/salmon.htm>

~~~~~  
Scandinavian Activity Contest (CW) ... QRP Category

Sep 18 - 1500z to Sep 19 - 1800z

Rules: <http://home.sol.no/~jana1me/SAC.html>

~~~~~  
QRP Afield (CW) *** QRP Contest ***

Sep 18 - 1800z to 2400z

Sep 19 - 0700 to 1100 LOCAL TIME

Rules: <http://www.eichhoff.com/neqrp/frame02.htm>

~~~~~  
CQWW RTTY DX Contest ... QRP QRM

Sep 25 - 0000z to Sep 26 - 2400z

Rules: <http://home.sol.no/~jana1me/htmlrules/cqrtty.html>

~~~~~  
Scandinavian Activity Contest (SSB) ... QRP Category

Sep 25 - 1500z to Sep 26 - 1800z

Rules: <http://home.sol.no/~jana1me/SAC.html>

~~~~~  
Fireball RUN II (CW) \*\*\*\*\* QRPp Contest \*\*\*\*\*

Sept 25 - 0900 to 1200 LOCAL TIME

Rules: <http://www.njqrp.org/data/fbrun2.html>

~~~~~  
72 de
Ken Newman - N2CQ
Woodbury, NJ
N2CQ@ARRL.NET

~~~QRP Contest Calendar~~~  
<http://www.njqrp.org/data/contesting.html>

~~~ NJ QRP Club Callsign ~~~  
WQ2RP

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 09:48:47 -0400
From: The Boices <boice@bigfoot.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49953] Re: DX or not DX
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.19990910094847.007bbec0@pop.megalink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

OK, the consensus, even from the non-US hams on the list, is not to worry about it and just work 'em. This is pretty much what I had always done, but sometimes it just made me wonder.

Thanks for all the responses!

FWIW, I worked Italy and France last night, and both were calling "CQ DX."
I will confess, tho: I had to crank the K2 ALL the way up to help the
French club station with QSB. 10 watts - how embarrassing!

72,

Mike Boice, KW1ND
New Gloucester, Maine FN43uw
QRP-L # 576 ARCI ARS # 188 K2 # 185 NorCal

Date: 10 Sep 99 10:10:06 EDT
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: Peter_Simpson@ne.3com.com, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49954] Re: [second fuse in mobile rigs...necessary?]
Message-ID: <19990910141006.28311.qmail@nwcst289.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hi Peter,

The battery is the "cleanest" source of voltage available in a vehicle,=
which is why, in commercial readio, we try to use it directly ,as much as=
possible. To use or not to use both positive and negative fusing, is your=
option, depending on how you feel about it. Same with the manufacturers. =
You
can bet that they didn't elect to for no reason at all, in those cases wh=
ere
they do it. Some cause led to it. 73 Roy WA4DOU

-----=

- =

=

=

=

Peter_Simpson@ne.3com.com wrote:

Hi Mike -

I'm not sure that the "starter/ground strap" analysis holds up.

A failed ground strap would only be a problem if the radio somehow got between the starter ground and the battery's negative terminal. I don't see how that could happen, unless:

Starter is bolted to engine (is starter body ground, or are there 2 lugs on starter? I can't recall)

Engine ground strap to battery fails, so starter needs another way to return ground current back to battery... perhaps through metal linkages connected between body & engine

Now current needs to get back through body to battery (there's normally a second ground strap there).

This ground strap, too, would have to fail, AND your rig ground would have to be directly connected to the battery, in order for the rig to be in the return path from the starter.

Note that your car stereo, engine computer, etc, don't have two fuses. The second fuse is ONLY necessary if you connect your radio's black wire DIRECTLY to the negative terminal of the battery, where it could end up being the only return path if the battery's ground lead failed. For a 50 watt VHF rig, which might draw 8 amps, you'd be perfectly safe using a chassis ground and the existing wiring. I always use the cigarette lighter power wire.

72,
Peter, KA1AXY

Get free email and a permanent address at <http://www.netaddress.com/?N=3D=1>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 10:28:05 -0400
From: "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>

To: <rmcconne@lightlink.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49955] RE: Component ID Help
Message-ID: <NBBBJDEEIFDDANGEGHLBAEAPGOAA.n4xy@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Bob... Nope. They were most often drivers of one sort or another. The MIL 7400-series was the 5400-series.

72 / 73 Ed N4XY email: <n4xy@arrl.net>

webpage: <http://www.qsl.net/n4xy/>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 10:29:45 -0400
From: "Mike Yettsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <w6toy@erols.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49956] Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
Message-ID: <028501befb98\$f6563c40\$9001a8c0@mikey.wn.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I think that Bruce has a very valid point... That this is a mobile unit. Yeah, CW would be nice, and it was on the 100, but since it's a mobile.

Besides, are we REALLY all falling into the appliance operator class that we can't design a twin-T oscillator to feed the mic with a super clean sine wave to do CW?

Hmm, come to think of it... Some of the function generator chips have 'sine' out. I wonder how close to a single pure sine it really is?

Mike
N1DVH

E to the x dy dx
E to the x dy dx
Secant tangent cosine sine
3.14159

Go team, hit em with the log!

(Sorry, couldn't resist, it just came to mind. I went to a wierd college.

What do you expect when our cheerleading squad carried a 6 foot slide rule on the field!)

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 15:38:28 +0100
From: Jack Bennett <J.Bennett@lboro.ac.uk>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49957] Re USA Visit
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.19990910153828.007bbb80@staff-mailin.lboro.ac.uk>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Guys,

What a fantastic list this is. I have had a marvelous response to my question regarding Ham shops. It is incredible just hospitable people are.

I have had offers to show me round ARRL, even out of office hours on a weekend, and guys have offered to meet me, guys have offered to drive me to places, and I even had a VK6 send me a load of relavent information and tips to make the journey and visit more of a success.

You really are a tremendous bunch of guys, and I hope to have the chance of recipricating on my patch sometime.

I have tried to respond to each of you individually, but a big thank you to you all.

72,

Jack G3PVG.

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 99 10:44:10 -0400

From: chuck.olson@sbaonline.gov
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49958] COMPONENT ID HELP
Message-ID: <9909101044.A8703wk@sbaonline.gov>
Content-Type: text

RM>Weren't the 75 series parts just 74's tested for military temperature

Bob -

You are probably thinking of the 54 series parts - 75 series parts are generally bipolar interface or driver chips.

Best Regards,

Chuck Olson, WB9KZY
Jackson Harbor Press - <http://home.att.net/~jacksonharbor>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 09:47:45 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49959] 2N2/40 Pilgrims Progress & Plea for Help
Message-ID: <001f01befb9b\$8b002de0\$7e7054d8@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Building takes a long time and troubleshooting takes twice as long!

The VFO went together pretty slick and sounds good in my receiver.

Got the mixer/front-end done too. Here's where my difficulties start. I can't get enough drive out of the VFO into the mixer. I get about 350 millivolts p-p where T6 connects to T5. Should be about 3 volts p-p, I think.

When I disconnect the mixer, I get about 1.8 volts p-p at the secondary of T6. I tried a couple of resistors for loads (470 and 50 ohms) and they pull the voltage down pretty much too.

OK, I'm supposed to select C15 for max output. I took out the 330 pF to try a 270 pF. No change with no capacitor and no change with the 270. Does the

load lower the Q so much that it doesn't matter? Should I be doing this without the mixer connected?

Also, the waveform is clean when the mixer is not connected but a little gnarly when it's hooked up. I guess this is normal due to the non-linear load(?)

I'm thinking about trying a different Q4 and/or reducing the value of R13 (emitter resistor) to increase gain. (I hope.) How about it?

When I started all of this troubleshooting, I first noticed some 50 MHz signal at various spots in the VFO. (Ignorance was bliss before I bought my beautiful old 465 scope.) I looked everywhere for the source and put FT-73-101 beads on all three base leads to no avail. Finally found that it was coming from the receiver preamp. I'd forgotten that even though I disconnected the mixer's L0, it still had Vcc on it. I ended up changing C4 from 0.01 to a 0.05 with a bead on one lead to get rid of it. I don't think the value was significant, but the lower Q (the new C4 is a funky looking old disk) of the cap plus the bead killed the oscillation. For a while I thought I was gonna have to convert the project to be a 6 meter DC receiver. It had a real pretty and stable 50 MHz signal going.

Oh, I did start the process by trying to hear a 7 MHz signal generator with the DBM's output going to my receiver at 4.915 MHz, as the book advised. When that didn't work, I moved into the troubleshooting mode. Uh-oh!

Some other unauthorized changes:

I used some schottky diodes instead of the 1N4148s. Would that mess things up or make the mixer require more (or less) drive?

Maybe I've got enough drive but I'm measuring at the wrong point(?) Should I be at the collector of Q4 instead of at the output of T6?

I used a 10k 10-turn pot instead of a 20K for the tuning control cause that's what I had. I did have some trouble getting a 100 KHz span and fiddling with cap values wasn't productive, so I added another diode drop in series with the zener. Maybe an adjustable regulated supply would make an easy span adjust for those of us not working under the constraints of the 2N2222 contest as Jim was.

Also, the FT37-43's that I got from a popular surplus parts house produced a lower than expected inductance, so I increased the number of turns proportionally on T5 and T3. I don't think that's a big deal--is it?

OK, I've humbled myself and can now sit back and let the smart guys tell me what to try next.

The project and book are great. I love the illustrations by Paul. It makes me nostalgic for all those Heathkits I built years ago.

BTW, closing the RF gain switch INCREASES the gain of Q1, right? So not having that hooked up probably had no bearing on my oscillation problem(?)

Hey, anyone got any EWB models of some of these stages that would run on version 4, to put out to the public? Also, is the Q3/Q4 stage described in some standard text, like SSDRA? I don't exactly understand to what extent this is two different (independent) amps ... or it's one with a lower power tap? The 220K feedback resistor's function?

72 and burn solder but don't inhale the smoke,

Nick, WA5BDU
in Arkansas

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 08:04:21 -0700
From: "Barry L. Geipel - AD6HR" <bgeipel@primenet.com>
To: <KG8L@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49960] Re: prosigns
Message-ID: <002301befb9d\$c3bca530\$5dc9bbc0@cwj.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This is very common in traffic handling.

> Not that I've ever heard...however a question mark MAY be used to signal
> 'repeat'...e.g. QTH Wichita Falls, TX ? Wichita Falls, TX.
>

Barry AD7HR

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 10:57:33 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49961] Radio Shack HTX-10
Message-ID: <02c301befb9d\$823e22a0\$9001a8c0@mikey.wn.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just as an asside, look at the TRC-485 CB set, then look at the
HTX-10...

Mike
N1DVJ

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 15:47:21 -0700
From: Mike Perry <pa7xg@amsat.org>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49962] DK1WE ??
Message-ID: <37D98A79.455F@amsat.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Kennt jemand die (e-mail-)Adresse von DK1WE ?
Vielen Dank es 73/72

--
Mike Perry, PA7XG
<pa7xg@amsat.org>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:40:52 -0000
From: "David Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49963] Test- disregard
Message-ID: <002a01befb81\$5b8d6a60\$9b19fcd0@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Test- please disregard- Dave, NN1G

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:55:02 EDT
From: GElam30092@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49964] Re: DX or not DX
Message-ID: <10a075b5.250a83d6@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

<< FWIW, I worked Italy and France last night, and both were calling "CQ DX."
I will confess, tho: I had to crank the K2 ALL the way up to help the
French club station with QSB. 10 watts - how embarrassing! >>

Which begs a question from a newbie. There are a few folks working on all 50
states attempting to contact all on the lower cumulative power possible.

Are you guys starting out at a higher power, a couple of watts for example,
and then working down to the lowest power setting needed to communicate OR
are you starting low and staying there through the contact? I'm not trying
to split hairs or cast dispersion on anyone..... just trying to determine the
running rules!

Thanks...
Gerry Elam, K1LR0
PHX AZ

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:59:59 -0000
From: "David Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49965] QRP Afield / Q&A
Message-ID: <003d01befb84\$0331c200\$9b19fcd0@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

gang-

(This is a re-post of the rules for next weekend's 'QRP Afield' operating
event. This information can also be found at <http://eichhoff.com/neqrp/> ,
and there are links to it from the NorCal and NJQRP sites as well.)

I've also had a few questions pertaining to the rules, so I've appended a 'Q
& A' session at the tail end of this message.

Good luck, and have fun!

--

QRP AFIELD, Sept. 18-19, 1999

* We've grouped last year's 'portable' and 'roving' categories into one 'portable' category this year. Please note that the rules defining 'portable' operation have changed.

* This year, we've added a Sunday morning bonus session- a 'foxhunt' of sorts. A number of stations will be camped out overnight Saturday, and we want to reward that perseverance. We'll make it worthwhile to contact them again on Sunday!

Operating periods:

- * Sept. 18th (Sat.) 1800-0000Z
- * Bonus session: (below)

Operating categories:

- Home station
- Portable

Portable stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations, and must use no facilities installed for permanent station use. Portable stations must be at least 500' from your home station location.

* Call 'CQ QRP' or 'CQ TEST' around the standard QRP frequencies on any of the legitimate contest bands (e.g, 30M doesn't count).

*Exchange: RST, S/P/C, and output power

Scoring:

Your QSO points total is based on your operating category:

2 points/QSO for Home operation
4 points/QSO for Portable operation

Power multiplier:

| | |
|----------|----|
| over 5W: | x1 |
| 1-5W | x2 |
| < 1W | x4 |

(This is the maximum power you used during the event.)

Stations may be worked on more than one band and will count as a new s/p/c (state/province/country) on each. Your SPC total is the sum of all the s/p/c's worked on all bands.

Your score : (QSO point total) x (your power multiplier) x (SPC total)

--

Sunday (Sept 19) Bonus session: 7-11 AM *LOCAL time*

Stations which have spent the entire night in the field (tent/trail shelter/camper /mobile) will sign /P after their calls. From 7 AM to 11 AM Sunday, local time, contact these stations (only) for *double* the QSO point-credit. The slate is clean starting Sunday - if you worked 'em on Saturday, you can work the /P stations again on Sunday for QSO and SPC credit. Stations meeting the /P criteria may work all others for the double credit. Vacation homes and other permanent or semi-permanent dwellings do not qualify as /P.

That's it! We have no idea how the Sunday bonus session will work out. Hopefully the participation will be good- we'll consider this an experiment worth trying.

I'll post reporting rules as we get closer in to the actual event. We can count on plenty of good 'soapbox' here on QRP-L, and I'll wrap up the results both here and in other published form. Until then-

72/73- Dave Benson, NN1G
August 8, 1999

--

Q: Can we have multiple bands in action at the same time (i.e., multiple transmitters and hence multiple ops)?

A: Absolutely! Group operations are fine, and they're a great way to get together with QRP friends. Please let me know you're a multi-op when you report scores so I can note it in the summary.

★

Q: How do I know whether the Saturday contacts are home or portable?

A: You don't- your score for the main event on Saturday is based on what *you're* doing. You're looking for the /P stations only on Sunday morning.

★

Q: I'll be portable on Saturday and operating from my home station on Sunday. How do I report my score?

A: Good question! Break it up- you score yourself as a portable on Saturday.
You score the bonus session separately and add the two together.

★

Q: I'll be staying at my in-law's cabin and operating more than 500' away from it- can I sign as /P on Sunday morning?

A: Nope. It doesn't meet the requirement regarding vacation homes. You're welcome to operate, of course, but you're looking for the /P stations.

The name of the game this year is "Get Your Butt Outside". What we're trying to encourage is *being outdoors*. I realize that there's a whole gamut of possible scenarios. Ideally, we'd all backpack many miles through snowdrifts with enormous loads, sinking in with every step, but that's not everyone's cup of tea! If you're in a tent overnight, you're outside. If you're in a tent trailer, you're outside. If you're in an RV, it's a bit of a stretch, but you're outside. Not all of us are youthful enough to appreciate a night spent on the ground! Trail shelters are fine.

Here's the short version: Apply the 'GYBO' criterion and use your best judgement- I don't plan to play 'QRP/P Policeman'. :-)

Thanks for the bandwidth-

72/73- Dave Benson, NN1G

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 12:08:58 EDT
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49966] EXTERNAL KEYSER WITH THE QRP PLUS
Message-ID: <24157eb0.250a871a@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Have any of you used an external keyer with success on the QRP PLUS? I am looking at the TICK-4 that comes with the WHITE ROOK MK-64.
TNX ALAN KB7MBI

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 12:31:32 -0400
From: "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49967] digital vfos
Message-ID: <4.2.0.58.19990910122637.0096f9a0@mailhost.det.ameritech.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

You know, it occurs to me that if I can buy a radio with digital tuning at the drugstore for \$10, some genius on this list could figure out a qrp digital vfo for the same price.

My question is:

(1) Why hasn't someone done that? -- someone had something similar but no readout

(2) Why are the costs so high? (I won't mention the company, but you can buy such things)

I know Small Wonder is about half way there, but I can't imagine that minimal lcd displays are that expensive, and some of you guys know what you're doing digitally.

I hope, but never get.....

73 jerry w8gnd

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 12:52:07 -0400 (EDT)

From: Chris Cartwright Sr <ccart@phideaux.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49968] Re: digital vfos
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.04.9909101240590.7104-1000000@dns.phideaux.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Fri, 10 Sep 1999, Jerry W. O'Dell wrote:

> digital tuning at the drugstore for \$10, some genius on this
> list could figure out a qrp digital vfo for the same price.

Just a few of the quick reasons I can think of, the FM radios use 100 KiloHertz tuning steps and don't have to be all that stable to pick up a 30Khz wide signal. And price breaks are a lot better when you can commit to 100,000 or more units (\$10 x100,000 = 1mega-dollar). I can't be sure, but I think most of the amateur radio kit sales would top out in the thousands, or maybe tens of thousands of units, if that. I wonder if Eric and Wayne have given any thought to K2 s/n #9999 :)

Just economies of scale and all that...

72

-- Chris Cartwright, Technical Engineer | ccart@phideaux.com --
-- N3XRV ARRL-VE Norcal Zombie #163 | Gaithersburg, MD FM19je --
-- MDmW #5 NJ-QRP #105 QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 FISTS #5028 QRP-ARCI #9271 --

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 09:48:48 -0700 (PDT)
From: Stanley Wilson <microres@crl.com>
To: "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49969] Re: digital vfos
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.990910094121.8224A-1000000@crl3.crl.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Jerry as hams and engineers we think of Newark, Digi-Key, Allied Radio, etc. What we need to do is think like a toy manufacturer. Look at some of the LCD digital displays for these Pocket Monster, etc.. A lot of 4 bit microprocessor out there driving these devices and some of the LCD are dot matrix type for graphics. Most designers make things to complex. Look at how simple the automatic closure is that is on a lot of the video tape machines. It can also be used as a time delay. We often

forget the old KISS idea of design, yes I include myself in that.

Maybe we need a 2n2222 type contest for the most complex device that is built for the least amount of money. But it must be reproducible for the same price. Some of these PIC keyers come close to the idea. 73

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> lcd displays are that expensive, and some of you guys know what you're
> doing digitally.
>
> I hope, but never get.....
>
> 73 jerry w8gnd
>
>
>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 13:07:43 -0400 (EDT)
From: Chris Cartwright Sr <ccart@phideaux.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49970] Re: DX or not DX
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.04.9909101253130.7104-1000000@dns.phideaux.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Fri, 10 Sep 1999 GElam30092@aol.com wrote:

> Are you guys starting out at a higher power, a couple of watts for example,
> and then working down to the lowest power setting needed to communicate OR

Personally I have the HW9 set to 20mW and just leave it there. On occasion I'll give the power knob a twist after the requisite CALL/RST

stuff is out of the way just to thank the other op without him having to strain. And even at 10mW they're not always straining! I've had people answer my CQ's when I was at 10mW, and other "complain" about how loud I got at 3 or 4 watts. I think a lot of the power repeats are because of sheer disbelief rather than QSB, QRN, or anything else.

Yes, a lot of nights I CQ for an hour and get nothing at 20, 50 or 100mW, other times (usually during contests) 5 to 10mW will get a response from the big guns. It does help to be on at odd hours, I seem to get better results after 0600Z, rather than trying to jump in with the after dinner crush. I picked 20mW because $.02 \times 50 = 1W$, and I'm about a third of the way through milli-WAS, but I'm not in any real rush. I'm in it for the fun, and with the flux at 105, it's about half as much fun as when it's above 200. :)

72

```
-- Chris Cartwright,   Technical Engineer   |   ccart@phideaux.com   --
-- N3XRV      ARRL-VE   Norcal Zombie #163   |   Gaithersburg, MD FM19je   --
-- MDmW #5 NJ-QRP #105 QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 FISTS #5028 QRP-ARCI #9271 --
```

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 10:16:08 -0700
From: Dave Barrett <DBarrett@creo.com>
To: "'microres@crl.com'" <microres@crl.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49971] RE: digital vfos / Somewhat related topic
Message-ID: <CE0A40BFE0CDD111A2B800A0C99B83EB01313BB9@msgcreo2.creo.bc.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

On the topic of utilizing El cheapo consumer products as a basis for (after cannibalizing :-)) our own uses..... if interested in cycling see below note below that I posted to HPV list yesterday:

Hi All

Latest news on the Extreme High Output Rear Flasher :

The unit design has been stabilized and is in its third revision. I have done exhaustive testing and an accelerated lifetest all with good results. The diagram is done and the parts list will hopefully be finished this coming weekend, a short assembly instruction will also be written up to accompany the diagram, and a couple of pictures will also be uploaded to the

"Incoming" file next week sometime.

For all of you who have asked for technical details, here we go:

The unit concept was born out of a complete lack (at least locally here in Canada) of a real high visibility rear light.

Yes there are the usual selection of El cheapo rear flashers but these are really poor and in my opinion offer little protection to the rider in nighttime hours and virtually none in full daylight.

A better idea is to power the prospective lamp off the same gel cell that runs the headlight. The only real option is to use high output light emitting diodes as they are far more efficient and hardy than the old fashioned lightbulb. Unfortunately purchasing discrete LED's of the high output variety is a tad expensive, a better approach is to purchase a few regular flashers and cannibalize them for the parts.

I searched around and found a local supplier (Mountain Equipment Co-op) that had really bright LED flashers for CAN \$6.75 each and containing 5 LED's.

Five units were purchased and stripped to supply 25 LED's, a really ugly construction board was made up to test the theory and act as a testbed. The original concept was to retain one of the flasher circuits to power the new circuit, however I quickly found this to be impractical due to the cheap construction of the units (for production cost reasons the manufacturer pots (covers in epoxy) the I/C making connection to it impossible, so this idea was scrapped.

One decided to make up a small circuit to provide the adjustable flash rate which consists of an NE555 timer I/C and two other parts (a capacitor and variable preset potentiometer) The resulting pulse drives via a resistor into power MOSFET transistor (IRF521) and this inturn drives the matrix of high output LED's.

The first idea was to have all LED's in parallel, however dropping the 12v down to the required 2.2v required extra parts and a lot of waste heat, so another idea was hatched, to connect the LED's in a series / parallel combination (5 diodes in parallel, in 5 rows that are in series) this enables us to run the entire matrix off 11v which is a far more efficient setup.

The matrix is then put in series with two (1N4005) diodes, one of which has a switch across it, this provides a high output daytime running condition when the switch is closed and a slightly lower output when the switch is open (for nighttime running).

If it all sounds complicated, please don't be put off, its really simpler than it seems. With only 8 parts plus the LED matrix we can have a really really bright rear flasher.

As the design stands it runs of 12v DC from your headlight bat pack, drawing less than .5A pulsed, which equates to 1.1 watts and has an output that is so bright its uncomfortable to look at even 12 feet away in full daylight.

For those who are unfamiliar with building electronic circuits, I would suggest having a friend who is OK with a soldering iron and hand tools help out.

So far one has not attempted to enclose the unit, however a small container with a red window will be hastily constructed this weekend with luck. More info as it emerges from the workshop of the old Limey here in Vancouver Canada :-)

Have a great weekend all !!

PS. A 35kb JPEG file is available for those who really feel the need to check out the circuit and heat up the old soldering iron :-)
Just email me.....

Dave VE7PCC Vancouver BC Canada

-----Original Message-----

From: Stanley Wilson [mailto:microres@crl.com]
Sent: Friday, 10 September, 1999 9:49 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: digital vfos

Jerry as hams and engineers we think of Newark, Digi-Key, Allied Radio, etc. What we need to do is think like a toy manufacturer. Look at some of the LCD digital displays for these Pocket Monster, etc.. A lot of 4 bit microprocessor out there driving these devices and some of the LCD are dot matrix type for graphics. Most designers make things to complex. Look at how simple the automatic closure is that is on a lot of the video tape machines. It can also be used as a time delay. We often forget the old KISS idea of design, yes I include myself in that.

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> lcd displays are that expensive, and some of you guys know what you're
> doing digitally.
>
> I hope, but never get.....
>
> 73 jerry w8gnd
>
>
>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 13:00:21 +0000
From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49972] Re: digital vfos
Message-ID: <199909101742.NAA20520@moose.ncia.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

>
> (2) Why are the costs so high? (I won't mention the company, but you can
> buy such things)
>
Because we don't buy parts in 100,000 or 1 million piece quantity and
we don't use what amounts to slave labor!

Also the overall quality of a \$10 digital FM radio is susspect and
the level of its performance is poor. It works, (maybe) for awhile
(if your lucky)

But, I am continuesly amazed at how cheap they can sell this stuff
for and still have a lot of people make money on it along the way.
The cost of producing a \$10 digital FM radio must be about 50 cents!

72,
Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
"melt solder"

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 13:43:39 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-l mailing list <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49973] Re: digital vfos
Message-ID: <37D9434B.44169EBD@rit.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

"Jerry W. O'Dell" wrote:

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> I know Small Wonder is about half way there, but I can't imagine that minimal
> lcd displays are that expensive, and some of you guys know what you're
> doing digitally.
>
> I hope, but never get.....

Jerry,

The radio you buy at the drugstore is one of about a bazillion of the same model. When you're going to build in those quantities, you can afford the \$200,000 or so it costs to design your very own custom IC to do exactly what you want. Most semiconductors, even the big ol' Pentium 2, aren't that expensive to produce - most of the cost is in labor (initial development and production testing) and processing equipment.

It's true that Philips has some PLL synthesizer chips that do darned near everything (with the possible exception of drive an LCD), but they're VERY customized for AM (MW) and FM broadcast, or cellular. They

tend to not be quite right for HF. You could probably shoehorn the MW synth into HF service, but your tuning step would be awfully big. (For example, the standard MW tuning step in North America is 10kHz. Elsewhere it's 9 kHz. Multiply that up to the 7 MHz band from 1 Mhz and you have steps of 63 - 70 kHz.) The Analog Devices DDS chips are a small miracle in my book - for \$10 you get the heart of a VFO that'll tune from DC through 9 MHz or so in steps so small you'd swear it was linear. But you still need a microprocessor to control it. PIC controllers are cheap - much less than ten dollars for the one-time-programmable parts (Between \$10 and \$20 for the erasable ones needed for development.)

As for displays themselves - the glass is really pretty inexpensive, but it's a dog to drive. You can buy generic driver chips, but that's more money, and you still need a PC board to hook it all together, unless you get a display with metal pins, which is more expensive... and God help you if you try to homebrew a display circuit with a zebra-strip connector. (I used to repair ham radios semi-professionally, and I still wake up in a cold sweat from trying to fix a 2M handheld that someone had taken the display out of.)

And then there's the time and effort to design the thing. We all know our local heroes work for free, right? Granted, many of these guys are doing it because they love it (and I think this is the reason for the quality products we're seeing), and will never get a "fair" wage for the time spent. But even the most dedicated electron-chaser will tire of the chase if he's expected to spend months of his precious free time developing products, then sell them for the cost of parts.

I have to admit I've been tempted to try my hand at what you describe (I'm fair at digital circuitry, and can get help with the analog stuff), but I can guarantee it'd cost more than \$10. What would you consider a fair price? And what kind of specifications? Let's at least get our arms around the job - maybe it hasn't been done yet because nobody asked!

Dave, WD8CIV

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 12:57:38 -0500
From: "ke5tc" <ke5tc@crosstel.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49974] Mena, AR Hamfest
Message-ID: <000701befbb6\$0ca34980\$996c1ece@computer1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang:

The Queen Wilimina Hamfest at the Queen Wilimina State Park on Rich Mountain, 13 miles west of Mena, AR. is this Sat. 9/11/99.

Great Fun and fellowship -- The Hamfest is FREE --

Tent fleamarket -- dealers..

Forums: skywarn; arrl; and QRP FORUM

Banquet at the Lodge Sat. night. Speaker is ARRL Vice President Joel Harrison w5zn.

THE QRP FORUM: 3:00 ACTIVITY CENTER. SPEAKERS ARE JAY BROMLEY W5JAY AND KELSEY KK5KU OF THE FORT SMITH QRP GROUP.

If you are in the area come on by. This is a nice hamfest.

Royce ke5tc

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 10:56:36 -0700
From: Jerry Haigwood <w5jh@swlink.net>
To: QRP-L Reflector <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49975] Weights of Radio Things
Message-ID: <37D94653.86852CE0@swlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dearest Gang,

I have been putting together a station for the Spartan Sprint. You know, one of those light weight stations that might (thats a big MIGHT) get me competitive. Anyway, I thought I would share my findings with all.

I chose the DSW-20 radio as the basis for my light weight station. A look at the Spartan Sprint results reveals 20 Meters is the place to be. Besides, the antennas are smaller than 40m and a lot lighter! Some of the weights I have come up with are: (Hope this list looks OK)

| ITEM | WEIGHT |
|---|--------|
| DSW-20 with SWL box/controls/knobs/connectors, etc. | .64lb |
| DSW-20 same as above minus top cover | .49lb |
| Whiterooks MK44 paddle | .075lb |

| | |
|---|--------|
| 30 inch long paddle cable | .0291b |
| junk box earbuds | .0271b |
| Radio Shack Ultra Light in-the-ear headphones | .0521b |
| A single AA Alkaline battery | .051b |
| A single 9V Lithium battery | .0831b |
| A single 3V Lithium (CR123) battery | .0341b |
| 2 AA Alkalines + 9V Lithium + AA battery holder +
cable and 5.5/2.1 power plug | .211b |
| 3V Lithium (CR123) + 9V lithium + 2/3A battery
holder + cable and 5.5/2.1 power plug | .1461b |
| 10 AA Alkalines + battery holder + cable and
5.5/2.1 power plug
(You need a bathroom scale to measure this thing!) ~. | .81b |

All measurements under 1 oz (.06251b) were weighed on a RCBS model 505 powder scale. All other measurements were made on a digital scale at work (used to weigh PC boards and components). Using the lightest combination of the above weights, I can keep my station weight at .81b which I believe is a competitive Spartan Sprint weight. Next, I need to get a better antenna up!

BTW, I plan to add pictures of all this to my web page in the next few days.

--

73, Jerry W5JH
web page <http://www.swlink.net/~w5jh/>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 14:12:40 -0700
From: "Mark Paley" <mpaley@wcnet.org>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49976] rotten CW
Message-ID: <00e601befbd1\$4fbee600\$30ab85cd@mpaley>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

A sub-topic of rotten CW is boring CW. For those of us who like to actually have a conversation with a fellow ham there is nothing more boring or pathetic than limiting a QSO solely to exchange of information as RST, rig, WX, Age, been a ham for xx years, or whatever. (This does not apply to contests, sweepstakes, etc). I consider such exchanges merely a convention for starting a QSO but should not be the *raison d'etre*.

On the first go-round I will give an RST, my name, and my QTH and then send it back to the other ham. On my next turn rather than go into the rig hr is, my ant. Is etc, if I really want to throw someone for a loop I tell them what I do for a living I m in the retail fine wine (and killer micro-brews!) trade. Normally I don t even get a rise. If I get the usual "age hr is " I may try something else, like talk about a current event or even politics. If I continue to get things like I m running 100 watts into a dipole this is my cue that it s going to be another predictable formulaic QSO. This sort of exchange does not do much for the imagination. I m not saying it s wrong but it gets boring after a while.

Now I realize that some folk are born contesters and some are into conversation. While I lean more toward rag-chewing I d like to think I can do both.

K2 #250
mpaley@wcnet.org
<http://www.wcnet.org/~mpaley>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 14:15:46 -0400
From: "Everhart, Joseph @ CSE" <jeverhar@mail.cse.l-3com.com>
To: "'qrp-l@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49977] RE: digital vfos
Message-ID: <B9A5540E55F7D211BE830000D11AD11E333930@l3c-xchg-cse.mail.cse.l-3com.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

"Jerry W. O'Dell" wrote:

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minimal
> lcd displays are that expensive, and some of you guys know what you're
> doing digitally.
>
> I hope, but never get.....

Jerry,

I have to echo what some of the other guys said about cheap consumer radios and the low performance you get for the money. I can speak with full knowledge of the problems with making inexpensive amateur radio equipment since I was responsible for redesign of a domestic frequency synthesized VHF FM radio some years back in an attempt to make it affordable. We found that competing with the far east was very difficult. They do everything on humongous scales - their cases, for example will be common with a number of different style radios. The ones used for ham 2 meter gear are common with CB, marine and some commercial 2-way radio models and the pc boards are common (with different parts and accessories) with the marine and two-way radios. The cost of doing 10,000 ham rigs is helped enormously when lumped in with several hundred thousand non-ham rigs. And the production runs on entertainment radios are even greater! We found in doing the ham rig that we could buy a complete pc board (two-way radio) stuffed with parts, tested and shipped from the far east for far less than we could buy even the unstuffed parts for domestically.

And not to make too much of it, but I doubt that you can buy a "synthesized" broadcast radio for \$10.00, at least not on regular sale. The ones that go that cheaply are usually analog radios with a digital clock. In misleading fashion they "say" that they are digital clock radios and they are, but the "digital" refers to the clock, not the radio. :-)

No intent to flame here, just to get a couple of points across.

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 09:44:42 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <nilsbull@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49978] Re: 12m meters, finally . . .
Message-ID: <01b001befbbc\$5c799d50\$c466d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----
From: Nils R Young <nilsbull@juno.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Thursday, September 09, 1999 6:11 PM
Subject: 12m meters, finally . . .

Hi Nils/Gang,

[snip]

>Still not hearing as much activity on 12 or 10 as I hear on the
>"freeband" spaces. Them guys is nuts, but they's on the air, you gotta
>admit that. I've heard Haitian Kweyol/Creole, Jamaican patois (I&I mon
>yas!) &c. Just imagine how much activity that would put on the ham bands
>if it were legal & they (as freebanders) saw things a bit differently.
>
>Which, I guess, is an answer to a suggestion that I got from a list

>member about "bringing them over" to this side of the forks.

I'd have to agree with you and the other list member, Nils. Maybe we should copy down their P.O. Box number that they use for QSLing, send em' a card, and tell them how much we'd like to see them on the ham bands? That, and also tell them that they could raise their incoming QSL and country count ten fold if they were hams. That might do it! :^)

Hmmm. This has me thinking about something. I wonder what the requirements are to become a ham in some of these countries? Do you have to be an EE or have a wad of cash 10 feet high to get a ticket?

I've heard some REAL horror stories from hams that work in the oil biz and "try" to bring equipment into the their countries. Most of them look the other way if you slip them a \$100.00. A lot of them don't, though, and they take your equipment, tell you that they have to send it off to be inspected, and you never see it again.

With all that in mind, I wonder if they are pulling the same kinda crapola on thier own citizens when it comes to getting a license? If this is true, it's no wonder that we're hearing all of these free-banding operators all over the spectrum.

I don't mean to be a pesimistic dolt, but, from what I've heard about some of these countries, you'd have to be stupid to let your government know that you were interested in becoming a ham, because that would only raise a flag, letting them know that you had some kinda' cash that they could get their hands on. Yes -- some of these countries are THAT corrupt!

>Use the forks, Luce! Use the forks! Trust your salad!

Being French and all, most of us down here are Catholic. Although I'm not Catholic, I've attended their services with my girlfriend from time to time, and I've pretty much

have their services locked in memory. Anywho, there is one part in the priest's spiel that goes, "May the Lord be with you." The entire congregation responds with, "And also with you." Several times during Star Wars movies when I hear, "May the force be with you," I've really had to hold myself back from standing up and shouting, "And also with you!" I wonder how many Catholics have that urge when watching Star Wars? :^)

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 13:40:06 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <tahrens@hilconet.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49979] Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP
Message-ID: <01b501befbbc\$687f28e0\$c466d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Tim Ahrens <tahrens@hilconet.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Thursday, September 09, 1999 9:02 PM
Subject: Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP

Hi Tim,

>Hi Randy - I did the ATV/RC plane thing about 10 years
>ago.. used a 'Senior Telemaster', camera, xmtr & battery
>pack. Worked pretty good.. always recorded the flights,
>'just in case' ;-)

Cool. Sounds like you had a ton of fun doing this, too.
Is there a possibility that you could put some "highlite"

clips of the flight on the web in Real format, Tim? That would be great!

Hmmm. I wonder if you could insure your camera-equipped plane and show it to your insurance adjuster if the plane wrecked and get a settlement? :^) :^).

When I was a kid (8 or so), I thought about putting a camera into a RC plane, building two fully automatic pellet guns, mounting them on the wings, and strafing bad drivers on I-10 when when they ticked my dad off doing stupid driving maneuvers. I mentioned this to him, but he said that I should go to the back of the motorhome (we were on vacation) and think it thru, calculating my jail time for assault with a deadly weapon, flying without a license, and 1st-degree murder if anyone got killed. Needless to say, I dropped that idea pretty quick! :^)

I got a MAJOR butt blistering later that year when my dad caught me trying to use an RC controller and receiver to jump across my neighbors telephone lines and make free longdistance phone calls :^). I still squirm around in my chair thinking about that one! :^) If I would only been faster in the telephone junction box! To quote the end of the Conehead's movie:

"Ah. Memories!" :^)

>Had extra large wheels on the bird, and put the camera
>between the struts in a Tupperware Celery keeper (don't
>tell my wife where it went). Cut a hole in the front,
>and positioned the camera so it could look out. In
>those days, the only available cameras took a bunch of
>guts to work, hence the large container. When you
>took off, or landed, it looked like you were going through
>the jungle!

That must have been cool! With todays technological advances, it would seem that you could really do some fancy stuff, like multiple, light-weight CCD-camera mountings in various locations on the plane for different views, etc. Hmmm. Maybe you could use stereoscopic vision and do some 3D renderings of the flight with digital enhancements? Here's one for ya': how about mounting

a similar setup on the solid-rocket boosters of the space shuttle and piping the video over the net? Yeah, we'd lose the gear, but I think it would be great publicity for amateur radio -- which is something we really need these days! -- and I'm sure that a couple of manufacturers would donate some gear to the cause if we were serious about it.

I think my "fly a ballon around the country via amateur radio" flight would be a good thing to do for publicity, especially if it was linked to the net where non-hams could watch the flight in progress, but no one has replied on this -- too ambitious? -- so it must be a stupid idea or something. (Shrug.)

On an non-serious note, I was thinking about calling the balloon the Clinton -- it's full of hot air! -- complete with a long-nosed Clinton characature puffing on a cigar on one side, and Monica Lewinski smiling on the other! That could work! :^)

>I only flew it a couple of times while 'only' watching the
>monitor.. when it's up real high, it is easy to lose, and
>should the downlink have problems, you can kiss the bird
>goodbye.

Hmmm. Off the top of my head, a GPS-correcting algorithm and gyroscopic, A/D converter would solve that problem, but I'm not sure how much weight that would add to the system. Basically, the code would poll the GPS unit, figure out its location in comparrison to its user-entered starting location, and fly back toward that location. As a matter of fact, I'd be very surprised if you didn't see something like this show up in the RC world soon, if it doesn't exist in some way, shape, or form already. The gyro would tell you if you were upside down, right-side up, and what not, and would make sure that the plane would be flying correctly before the GPS code kicked in and guided the plan back to the pilot. That would be a fun project to work on!

>That's probably going to be one of the most
>important things to consider,, if you don't have visual
>contact on it, and something goes awry, then you'd best
>have LOTS of liability coverage. There are variations on
>your theme... flying it from inside a 'chase' car... seems
>that folks do this for endurance flying, etc.

As far as liability coverage is concerned, I'd have to say that I agree with you; however, if this was spread across the ham/RC world as donations and what not, I doubt that it would be all that bad. Hmmm. How about a self-destruct like the missile dudes use? :^)

>It was a fun project & really didn't cost that much... more.
>Of course when you talk big RC, everything is expensive!

A local RC friend told me about a 20' B-17 Flying Fortress that took 4 guys to fly. When he told me the thing ran \$10,000.00, my jaw nearly hit the floor. Yep! Expensive they can be!

>OBQRP - I was only running about 4 watts PEP from the ATV
>xmitter.

Good to hear that you are following good qrp practices in your endeavors, Tim :^).

Here's my OBQRP:

How about mounting multiple CCD cameras inside of a clear basketball, with a camera at each compass point. Give the thing to Jordan, film a Slam fest, and use horizontal-horizon and jitter-reduction algorithms for the ultimate Jam Cam? :^) Should work ok on a football, too. How about a first-person perspective on a Hail-Mary-Bomb pass? Now -- if I could only figure out a way to make that system work inside off a high-impact golfball! :^)

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:59:57 -0700 (PDT)
From: Gary Slagel <gdslagel@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49980] Antenna Question
Message-ID: <19990910185957.19974.rocketmail@web209.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Last night I switched the feedline on my portable quarter wave 20 meter groundplane vertical from coax to balanced line and now (after playing with feedline lengths) I'm able to tune this thing for 15/17/20/30/40 using an mfj tuner.

Any thoughts on the performance this thing will have on 30 and 40 compared to putting loading coil(s) on the antenna so I don't need to tune it?

Thanks for any help.

Gary/N0SXX

===

Gary Slagel/N0SXX
Conifer, CO 80433
gdslagel@yahoo.com
Personal Website: <http://marina.fortunecity.com/sanpedro/351>

Do You Yahoo!?
Bid and sell for free at <http://auctions.yahoo.com>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 15:42:30 -0400
From: "Geoff Foster" <gfoster@provide.net>
To: <ac5ez@webtv.net>, "qrp_l@Lehigh.EDU" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49981] Re: Cw whine & complain
Message-ID: <017b01befbc4\$a0622160\$9378cecf@c>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>I feel guilty about not answering many cq's that are running under 13
>wpm but its vexing to copy slow slow cw. Guess I am too impatient in my
>ole age. (flame suit on)

Larry,

I appreciate your approach. As I am good for about 13wpm, I find it very annoying when someone answers my call at 25wpm. When asked to QRS he slows to 23wpm. I am impressed by his speed but have no idea what he is saying. No copy, no QSO.

Geoff

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 12:50:33 -0700
From: Jim <w7ls@blarg.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49982] WTB:Radio Shack speaker-mic
Message-ID: <37D96109.7C61142@blarg.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I missed the sale on those. I'll pay a fair price. Please contact me about price and condition. Thanks. Jim W7LS

Date: 10 Sep 1999 14:58:02 -0500
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu, "tentec list" <tentec@contesting.com>
Subject: [49983] Ten Tec cases
Message-ID: <n1275146980.66904@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

My kits all seem to have something that appears more like a chemical finish that in error I called "anodize", rather than paint, but let's just say they are prefinished in black. Anodize is technically an aluminum process, and these case parts are steel, finished inside and out.

FYI,
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 15:04:01 -0500
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@cswnet.com>
To: <mpaley@wcnet.org>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49984] Re: rotten CW
Message-ID: <002e01befbc7\$b30eae20\$2b7054d8@big>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OK, Mark. But just as in real world first meetings, you start with small talk and not with how much you hate Senator Bilgewater or how mean your ex-wife is. You have to feel around to see if you have some common ground and similar temperament to allow a conversation. You also have to decide if the other guy's CW proficiency (and your own) will permit some unusual words and phrases.

I have QSO's first just to experience the magic of radio. When interesting conversations come up, that's a bonus. Like the guy who tells me he toured my part of the world (Arkansas) when he was in the circus. And the guy in Canada who told me about how he had a farm and grew canola. "We used to call it rapeseed, but we had to get rid of that name for obvious reasons."

Politics? You've got more nerve than me. That's a quick route to an exchange of angry slogans. Or the two of you agreeing on your common angry slogans. I don't see too many friendly, thoughtful discussions of politics in real life and don't expect to find any on the ham bands.

One thing I know I have in common with the other guy is technology, radio to be specific. Maybe we can talk about antennas and homebrewing equipment.

Oh well. Rig is Outlook/W95 with K-266 processor. I'm 51 and been on the list for one year.

72,

Nick, WA5BDU

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Paley <mpaley@wcnet.org>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 1:17 PM

Subject: rotten CW

A sub-topic of rotten CW is boring CW. For those of us who like to actually have a conversation with a fellow ham there is nothing more boring or pathetic than limiting a QSO solely to exchange of information as RST, rig, WX, Age, been a ham for xx years, or whatever. (This does not apply to contests, sweepstakes, etc).

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 16:40:50 -0500

From: "George Heron" <n2apb@erols.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, <njqrp@njqrp.org>
Subject: [49985] Re: Chassis labels
Message-ID: <05cc01befbd5\$2988f580\$e798accf@computer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Great ideas Ed! With the popularity of the Altoids tins as enclosures for our QRP projects, there's a pent up desire to make the labels look good on the tins. Plus, we're perpetuating the "tin trend" with the impending announcement of our club's Fireball Receiver kit (with options for an Altoids tin in the kit!),

Another technique I've used for labels on tins is:

- 1) to use a color ink jet printer to make the labels,
- 2) successively spray both sides of the paper label lightly with clear Krylon spray, thus allowing the acrylic spray to build up on the label without bleeding the ink, and then
- 3) cut and attached the label to the surface of the tin with spray-on glue.

You can see my original FB40 tin on our Fireball website (<http://www.njqrp.org/fireball40/>)

But I do like your nail polish approach because it sounds like the label ends up with a good, thick, hard and glossy surface ... durability!

73, George N2APB

PS: I'm copying this to the QRP-L gang ... your tip would be a value on a wider scale. Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

From: E. Roswell <eroswell@monmouth.com>
To: NJ QRP ListServer <njqrp@njqrp.org>
Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 2:32 PM
Subject: Chassis labels

I ve been experimenting to find a quick & easy method of putting labels on our Altoids, etc, tins, but one which looks much neater than I ve been doing. The following I ve worked out to be fairly nice looking, using the PC & printer. The problem with the ink-jet and other printers is

the bleed-through and smearing of the ink.

I first tried using my dot-matrix printer, which was OK; but then found it worked equally well with the ink-jet, which I prefer as it prints more like letter quality. I print out the labels, words, phrases I need on good paper, any style/font suitable for the ink-jet.

I then coat the BACK of the paper with clear nail polish or nail hardener they call it. By coating the back, I avoid smearing/bleeding the ink. When fully dry, then I coat the FRONT, which should not bleed now that the coating has penetrated the paper from the back towards the ink.. When that coat is dry, I apply a layer of correction white (White-out , Sno-Pake , etc) to the back of the label. Before I did this, the clear nail polish made the paper translucent, and the contrast wasn't good, looked dirty . The white fluid restores the contrast to the paper.

Then dry, I cut to size, then apply to chassis/panel using rubber cement (e.g. Elmer's No Wrinkle Rubber Cement). Smear thin layer of cement on both label and panel, attach to panel when it loses its tackiness. Press out excess cement. When cement is thoroughly dry, you only have to roll off the excess with your finger. Then a final coat of clear nail polish on top to protect it.

This seems to work for me. Experiment with the clear polish, white-out, and cement, before you go final.

Ed,
K2MGM.

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 16:34:09 EDT
From: charles k brown <n4so@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49986] HTX-10 RadioShack 10 meter transceiver
Message-ID: <19990910.203233.2167.0.n4so@juno.com>

From: Universal Radio <dx@universal-radio.com>
Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 15:32:47 -0400
Subject: Re: UNIDEN info/address

Uniden makes the HTX10 RadioShack 10 meter transceiver...

Bearcat/Uniden
4700 Aman Carter Blvd.
Ft. Worth, TX 76155
800 297-1023 voice mail/ follow the menu
Home Depot was given as a local Retail store for zip code 36541// Menu
number 5 - Retail stores
in Mobile, AL
<http://www.uniden.com>

Get the Internet just the way you want it.
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!
Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 08:33:06 -0400
From: Joseph Mikuckis <k3chp@erols.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49987] Re Crystal Grinding
Message-ID: <37D7A902.1E7@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The response to my question as to what material(s) to use in crystal grinding was overwhelming! Thanks to all of you who responded.

73 de Joe, K3CHP
Riverdale, MD

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 16:49:19 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-1 <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49988] Re: Tayloe detector?

Message-ID: <37D96ECF.B6668527@rit.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

charles k brown wrote:

>
> Dave,
> No info on the Tayloe detector - do you have any
> text files on it?

Ken,

No, sorry - I read it in the archives, however, from some time back in the Oct - Dec 98 time frame. (sorry I can't be more specific.)

Dave

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 16:53:58 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [49989] Re: Chassis labels
Message-ID: <37D96FE6.330DAE3B@rit.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

George Heron wrote:

>
> Another technique I've used for labels on tins is:
> 1) to use a color ink jet printer to make the labels,
> 2) successively spray both sides of the paper label
> lightly with clear Krylon spray, thus allowing the acrylic
> spray to build up on the label without bleeding the ink, and
> then
> 3) cut and attached the label to the surface of the tin
> with spray-on glue.

George,

Regulars on the rec.crafts.winemaking newsgroup suggest cheap hair spray as an alternative to Krylon. Of course, they also use milk as the adhesive (comes off easier, which is desirable on a wine bottle that's going to be re-used). For areas that will get a lot of abrasion, like around the tune or gain controls, I suspect the Krylon or nail polish overcoat will hold up better.

Dave

Dave Hinerman WD8CIV
dlh1009@rit.edu

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 13:51:40 -0400
From: Nils R Young <nilsbull@juno.com>
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49990] Ok, here's one & I'll shut up about this "freeband" thing
Message-ID: <19990910.135147.14278.5.nilsbull@juno.com>

Fellow-sufferers,

Ok, so I subbed to a 11-meter list. Wanted to see what was up.

And then, just now, I picked this one up from the data:

>From: "Thomas Hasselberg" <hso747f@tninet.se>
>Hi
>Its no manager according to S.D. Directory so the ad is...
>306SD101 TOM
>P.O. BOX 97 A
>380004 - TBILISI
>GEORGIA
>
>Perhaps Tom got a new manager resently??
>
>73s
>THOMAS
>21 S.D.101
>SWEDISH CO-ORDINATOR hso747f@tninet.se

Can you believe this? There's a freebander in a country that most folks never hear on the air! And he's got an "ad" (address) listed in a call sign directory run by one of the many "DXCC groups" that hand out call signs & coordinate QSL exchanges. Georgia, gang, like Kartvelia in the language books. Where Koba Stalin came from.

When's the last time one of us even heard UF on the air? Even during the days of the Soviet hegemony? And here's a guy who's got enough CB gear to make a signal into Belgium (where the original request for the address came from).

If we could get these guys on the air legal, on the ham bands, where they can learn some real stuff about propagation & MUF & all the other things

they talk about on the 11-meter list, we'd have hams everywhere. And, given the economies of such places as Kartvelia, probably with about the same outlay of spending cash. (Which may be the way folks in those places get licenses in the first place, having seen that experience first hand myself . . .)

73

Nils

. . . by the way, I cross-referenced the callsign to Georgia/Kartvelia using a 11-meter club call sign prefix list. Prefix 306 is the same prefix to 11-meter freeband as UF is to ham radio. Now, about that WWV voice over stuff

Nils R. Bull Young :: La Estancia de los Guajolotes Sonrientes
WB8IJN &c :: The Tagalong Press :: email to nilsbull@juno.com
"In my day we had to FIGHT to have email! Every day was a struggle!"
-- Comrade Sergei Nikolaievich

McTovarishov

Get the Internet just the way you want it.
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!
Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 17:08:57 -0400
From: "Jerry W. O'Dell" <jwodell@ameritech.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49991] more on my fictional vfo
Message-ID: <4.2.0.58.19990910165638.00970430@mailhost.det.ameritech.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Got lots of responses, all good. The issue seems to be that human labor would be involved, and that costs money.

Soooooooo..... we eliminate the human element and put the whole bloody thing on one piece of silicon.

I feel that there is just so much commercial value in such a device that some bright young fella out west will do it. Who would have thought that I could buy a 4.3 gig hard drive for \$100 5 years ago? Talk about labor! How about the \$15 56K modem I just saw at the computer store? (they said it was guaranteed)(I didn't buy it)

If I were braver, I'd bet all of you 1 cent that my digital vfo with display will be available within 5 years. For under 5 bux. But I'm cheap. (that should be obvious)

Incidentally, most people seem to think that you manufacturers out there sell thousands or tens of thousands of your units. I suspect not. I don't think QRP is the way to get rich.

How does it go? There are things in our theories that we have not dreamt of Horatio
(that's about 9 Shakespeare plays collapsed into one!)

One must dream.....

73 jerry w8gnd

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 16:16:20 -0500
From: "ke5tc" <ke5tc@crosstel.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49992] re:Mena AR. hamfest
Message-ID: <000e01befbd1\$d006dd40\$9f6c1ece@computer1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mena, Arkansas is located about 70 miles south of Ft. Smith, AR. on hwy 71 or north of Texarkana, AR. on hwy 71. The State Park is on top of Rich Mountain about 13 miles west of Mena on hwy 1.

Mena is located about 70 miles south of Poteau, OK. Take 259 south to 270 east into Arkansas and hwy 266 north up the mountain. Or from Broken Bow, OK. take 259 north to 270 east into Arkansas and hwy 266 north up the mountain. Talkin freq. is 145.25 100 hz tone neg. offset. The repeater is on top of the mountain and will have great range. Check out <http://qwha.intrastar.net/intex.html> Hope this helps some, I'm not good at giving directions. 73 de ke5tc

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 17:22:59 EDT
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: PDouglas12@aol.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49993] Re: 2N2 certificates # 10 and 11 awarded
Message-ID: <f72a6ebf.250ad0b3@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Pres,

Like Old Man Adams of 60's Sour Gum fame said, "Gee, thanks!" (Now THAT should date me.)

And for the rest of us, it couldn't be any easier to build the 2N2/40 these days. The entire parts kit is available from Dan's Small Parts, the substrate is available from the AZ SQRpions, and you probably already have the QRPp article. If not, get the book from Bob Hightower, KI7MN (I might, my QRPp is dirty and dog-eared!).

Doug, KI6DS said it well also, the 2N2/40 may very well represent the next evolution of QRP building, or something to that affect. I'll have mine on (at least one of them) during the NE QRP Afield next weekend. Look for it, it will be the station with the rock-stable signal!

72 Pres, and to all a good night,

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 17:34:30 EDT
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: juanjope@ctv.es
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49994] Re: 2N2/40 Mods, Mixer post amp and variable RF gain
Message-ID: <9d7b37c1.250ad366@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Juanjo,

It may have been me suggesting the R31 "sidetone" change. 5.6M ohms is probably more comfortable in a quiet environment, 4.7M would be my second choice.

Now, we must try for the first Trans-Atlantic 2N2/40 2-way QSO!

72

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 15:56:10 -0600
From: Bruce Kizerian <kizerian@ced.utah.edu>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [49995] ElmeRadio PCB's
Message-ID: <37D97E7A.29E4A3F3@ced.utah.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Received 4ea. ElmeRadio AM Regen PC boards this afternoon from FAR Circuits. Fred sure does fine work. I will build one up this weekend (I hope!), and if there are no problems I am sure FAR will be glad to sell them to anyone.

Stay tuned

Bruce kk7zz

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 14:56:24 -0700
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49996] Revvin' up!
Message-ID: <37D97E88.3343@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang, been QRL just about everywhere I go these days. Been getting some QRP contacts in when possible.

I've looked about everywhere, not even the dogs with their keens sense of smell can find my free time. I think I've misplaced it.

And how DID one of my ESD work shoes get to the bottom of the

clothes hamper this morning... Is that dog drool I see?
"Bad girl! Why don't you be constructive and put my tools away?"

Just finished repairing two rigs for KD7VD in Idaho. Ron's gonna be happy. The return package is gonna be a lot heavier coming back to him -- he'll get a charge out of this one :)

Speaking of chargers, my long-time pal, Bud/WF6Q has been without his Drake TR-4 setup for years. Folks, don't pack this stuff away in storage. Now he's here and his storage is 300 miles to the north. So I got this OHR-100, straight key, battery and charger to get him going again. He keeps looking for excuses why he can't put up an antenna etc, so I'll set up a stealth ant. for him. They do work, ask K6MGO who launches a big signal from his garage antenna Saturdays on WSN-40.

Heads up tomorrow for AD6IT. Nicholas is done with the 49er I built for him and he's sure to QNI wsn-40 net with his Norcal 40. (WSN is 9:00 AM Pac. time, 7040 KHz CW +/- QRM) Way to go young guy!

The E-150 Van is still in DMV-Hell but I'll keep fixin' it up. I'm customizing the courtesy tray above the interior engine cover. Will fit an ARGO rig, clock, etc. Made to order when you build it yourself. Still working on the bug-key mount for my left hand.... Hey! If you pretend there is no such thing as a keyer, you'll find a way to make the bug work, even on bumpy roads.

Tests on the Adcock array still not started. The CFA and Folded Monopole tests are on hold for a little while longer. I do believe I'll have at least 2 or 3 antenna systems running soon. The horizontal loop is quiet and good for close in QSO's but the fox hunts are approaching...

The dog broke the raised water faucet in the back yard, right when the Spartan Sprints were to start. I found my plumber hat and fixed it up.

It's Friday, ergo this post -- Pretty much all I can share this week.

Please all, have a great weekend!

72 from Smilin' Ed 8^D> with goatee and cueball haircut again...

--

-Ed AR Millennium Q's=>1100/2000 QRP-L#1068 Old NC#2227
72, Ed WE6W, A-1 OP; <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
QRP-Z#106 AR#112 HI-QRP#64 ARCI#9397 ARS#275

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 18:04:53 EDT
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49997] Re: Chassis labels
Message-ID: <6605dde4.250ada85@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

And for the well heeled, or not so well heeled, don't overlook the Brother line of P-Touch label makers. No, not the embossed type, I mean the ones that come with different tapes. White letters, black letters, other color letters. Clear background, black, and other colors. They look sharp, and don't connote an "amateurish" look to your project.

You can Krylon these labels too.

72 all

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 15:26:59 -0700
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@extremezone.com>
To: K2UD@aol.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [49998] Re: 2N2 certificates # 10 and 11 awarded
Message-ID: <199909102218.PAA05408@enterprise.extremezone.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 05:22 PM 9/10/99 -0400, Howard wrote:

>And for the rest of us, it couldn't be any easier to build the 2N2/40 these
>days. The entire parts kit is available from Dan's Small Parts, the
>substrate is available from the AZ SQRpions, and you probably already have
>the QRPp article. If not, get the book from Bob Hightower, KI7MN (I might,
>my QRPp is dirty and dog-eared!).
>

Actually, you can get the book from Paul Harden at QuickSilver Printing,
P.O. Box 757,

Socorro, NM 87801. The cost is \$12, or from Dan's. I don't have any, sorry to say.

Bob Hightower KI7MN

<http://www.extremezone.com/~ki7mn>

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 17:09:37 +0200
From: "Juan Jose Pastor Estornell" <juanjope@ctv.es>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [49999] OT: Outlook to Eudora.
Message-ID: <000201befbdb\$358b8c20\$9e9119d4@juanjopectv>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dear QRP-L folks,

A small off topic e-mail question from old Spain. Can any version of the Eudora mail manager import messages from MS Outlook 97?. I have an old version of Eudora Light that I used under W3.11 in my old 386SX but now I am using the Outlook under W98 in my new 350 MHz Pentium and I miss the versatility of the filtering features in Eudora. Outlook "fetched" (imported) easily the messages downloaded and stored with Eudora, but now I would like to do the reverse way. Any help or question now can go to ec5aca@qsl.net , please do not overload the list. TIA.

73, 72 de Juanjo, EC5ACA/QRP. EA-QRP #104, G-QRP #9742, QRP-L #1662.

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 17:40:19 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <w6toy@erols.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50000] Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
Message-ID: <021501befbdd\$c376ce80\$c466d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 8:14 AM
Subject: Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10

Hi Bruce/Gang,

>They designed a SSB/FM radio for 10 meters. They left out CW. Is this
>so bad? I don't think so. Most of my phone operation over the last few
>sunspot cycles has been SSB on 10 meters. Not a lot, but often enough
>to remember certain QSOs like a three way with a VK, a W8 and me,
>crossing teh California Nevada state line one night.

There's a couple of flaws with this logic, Bruce. If this this rig is supposed to be a Novice rig -- they even mention this in their catalog, so somebody on the list says! -- then why not have CW? Also, I'd be willing to bet that the "majority" of these radios are going to be sold to hams that plan on using an external power supply and using the rig from home, which is another reason that RS should have CW in the thing. This might not have been the original design goal, but I remember only hearing a "few" hams using the HTX-100 in their cars during the last sunspot cycle. My argument is probably moot, though, because a large portion of the things are going to probably wind up in the hands of the freebanders anyway, and I can't believe that RS would be that stupid and not include CW :^). Guess we'll just have to wait and see.

>If you want to work CW so badly, there are ways to accomplish it. But,
>in fact they appear to have designed a radio for the car, where SSB/FM
>is the safer mode. The last thing you want while toodling along at 65
>mph is to be concentrating on CW and run smack into the back of another
>car!

I agree with you here, Bruce, but don't forget that it's very simple to connect the thing up to a power supply and work CW from home. Not only that, some people get a kick out of buying a new toy and selling their old ones to pay for it. If the rig doesn't have CW, I'll step out on a limb and say that there are some hams that won't even bother picking one up. Also, since this rig is "supposed" to be for amateurs, I think that it would be safe to say that the average age of the rig purchaser will be 53, male, General class or above, fluent in CW, and not even slightly interested in going mobile

CW with the thing, because his arthritis bugs him too much when he's driving, his corns act up when he's pushing the brake, accelerator, and clutch, and his eyesight is too messed up from geeking out on the net, so he has more than enough trouble just trying to concentrate on the road. Almost forgot! His toupee might blow off if he roles down the window and land on the back seat, hitting his wife's lap dog, frightening the bejesus out of the thing and causing her to have a back-seat accident, which infuriates his wife, causing her to spill her fast food all over her best blouse, which strikes a spark that evoloes into a never-ending flame fest on road safety and un-nessary dress distruction. The great thing about the 53 and male stuff is that statistics backs all of this up! :^)

(The last part of that was just a joke, guys!) :^) :^) :^).

>Lighten up. Buy an old HTX-100 and run CW. Do it when you're parked
>somewhere, you'll live longer! Meanwhile, for the car, I cannot see
>anything wrong with RS's offering!

Bruce, you're the person that needs to drop back 10 yards and punt. Why can't u let all of our "dumb" meanderings stay that way? Everyone has a right to make their own purchasing decisions and use this rig in any way they see fit, which includes mobile CW. If you feel that you have to remark some what negatively on the subject, maybe you can tone it down and use a little tack instead of telling us we're stupid? I'm sure that you don't mean it this way, but it sure comes off where I feel that I've been insulted. Think about this, my friend -- and I do whole-heartedly mean my friend!

Additional OBQRP:

I think that instead of receiving a plaque for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries in the 2N2/40 contest, they should have some gold-plated pocket protectors with the winners name and callsign engraved on em' as awards. It would be a great conversation piece at future QRP events, they'd be useful as pocket protectors, would solidify our geek status, and could also double as a name badge! :^) :^). And yes -- there is another 2N2/40 in the works. :^)

Off to visit my girlfriend and BBQ. See you guys tomorrow.
Same bat time, and same bat channel!

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 15:48:12 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <jfrancis@frii.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50001] Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP
Message-ID: <021301befbdd\$c1755930\$c466d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Francis <jfrancis@frii.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 12:02 AM
Subject: Re: Radio Control Planes and QRP

Hi Jeff/Gang,

> Actually, this is quite common. With the size of cameras and
>transmitters these days, it's quite cheap and easy to do. Super
>Circuits even sells videos taken in-flight. In fact, it's so small
>and light now that people have even started doing it with R/C
>helicopters. With the addition of a very small GPS receiver and a
>little electronic video character and genlock widget (I forget who
>makes it - they advertise in Circuit Cellar Journal, though), you can
>even superimpose speed, altitude, and direction on top of the video
>feed so you know where you are. Others have sent the GPS data back by
>modulating the audio carrier at 300 or 1200bps.

Too cool! I kinda' figured that there were some fellow
technoids doing something like this. My ideas are
usually a day late and a dollar short, but I eventually
get there :^).

The forefront of these designs would be in the AI (artificial intelligence) coding that would bring the aircraft back to the pilot if it losses signal or if the the pilot tells presses a button and tells the plane to "fly back my way," of course. Also, watching someones flight on the web should be pretty cool. Should be a "very" interesting hobby to tie into QRP in the next few years!

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

Date: Fri, 10 Sep 1999 15:27:15 -0500
From: "Randy Jouett" <rules@bellsouth.net>
To: <wb2vuo@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [50002] Re: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10
Message-ID: <021201befbdd\$bcb38b60\$c466d6d1@spock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: wb2vuo@juno.com <wb2vuo@juno.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Thursday, September 09, 1999 11:02 PM
Subject: CW with the Radio Shack HTX-10

Hi Keith,

>I got the catalog today, and there is no mention of CW except to mention
>that "no-code" Techs just have to pass a 5 WPM test to be able to use the
>rig. So, what does a dedicated CW op do? (This is somewhat rhetorical
>as I am not dedicated to any particular mode other than living...)

Add CW, of course; however, if we start doing this RS could get the bright idea of thinking, "Hey, the hams will just add CW anyway, and that will save us some

cost!" True, but I'd rather it come from the factory and not have to worry about doing this kinda' mod, especially if the rig is supposed to be a ham rig. Who ever heard of a multi-mode rig not having CW?

>Use the venerable SBE (Side Band Engineers, a 60's ham manufacturer)
>method, key a very CLEAN twin-T audio oscillator into the mike. I don't
>have the model number anymore, BUT the gang at SBE made a device called
>the CodeApter if I remember correctly.

I kinda' like this idea over my Elmer's, Keith, because the mod is external and doesn't remove value from the radio by being internally modified. OTOH, I think my Elmer's design would be cheaper and cleaner, yet what slaps that in the face is the fact that once you build the Twin-T oscillator, you'll have the thing for life and can use it on any other manufacturer's rig that is stupid enough to not include CW. Good thinking!

>Look, if it worked in the 60's and 70's with discrete components, it's
>not going to take Rocket Science to do it now with digital technology,
>maybe even a daughterboard for the various flavors of TiCk's (Any
>possibility, Brad?)

Now your talking! Should be kinda' cheap, and it would be a great kit if the HTX-10 doesn't have CW, which I still kinda' doubt, but it is fun to think this stuff up and exercise some neuron muscle, though :^).

>I am sorry to see the marketing people at Tandy taking potshots at their
>feet again, but I/we can make their gear work right, and do it without
>investing a large chunk of cash in the process...

Let's say that the RS rig doesn't have CW. What really bugs me about this is that RS would be taking advantage of us, knowing that we'll add the mod and save them some bucks. Sorry, but I don't like being used. OTOH, if they have omitted CW and added some great SSB filtering, good, clean FM deviation, and a decent front end, then maybe we're getting our dollars worth and should shut up and smell the coffee? Variables like this and all the different outcomes kinda' suck :^).

>I am on the list for an HTX-10 at the local Radio Shack, are you?

Nope. I'm going to be playing around with my converted

CB rig as soon as my xtals arrive. I will pick one up when
you and guys on the list say, "What a great radio!", though :^).

72/73,

Randy Jouett, AB5NI

End of QRP-L Digest 1575
